■ World / A8

Clinton to have heart surgery ■ Entertainment / A2-1 'Crying Ladies'

RP entry to

the Oscars

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Smart opposes Pagcor's text gambling plan

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Archers oust Maroons

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OCWs in Iraq: Dapat bang alisin na ang ban?

WIN A 21" TV! TEXT 2910



** 92 pages 7: 11 sections 7 vol. 19 7 no. 270

After convincing members of Silliman High School

DUMAGUETE CITY—First the jewelry; now it's text mes-

By Alex Pal

PDI Visayas Bureau

Text messages to boost 'Bayanihan Fund' urged

> UR LOAD 4 RP!

umiti: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

Sunday, September 5, 2004

PIS

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Napocor gets rate hike

Militants cry foul, say move will raise power rates again

By Ronnel W. Domingo

ENERGY regulators yesterday granted the state-owned power generator, National Power Corp., a provisional rate increase of an average 98 centavos per kilowatt hour, a move that is sure to hit hard ordinary consumers who are' already facing hiked electricity rates this month.

Work on North Rail

project to start soon

She personally gave the stands for each of her 10 pro-

Energy Regulatory Commission was just half of the P1.87 per kWh that Napocor, which sells power that it generates to electricity distribution utilities, petitioned for last June.

Napocor officials said the firm needs the increase to help stem losses projected to top P100 billion this year.

The new rate will take effect on Sept. 26 and the distribution utilities, like Manila Electric Co., that buy their power from Napocor will likely pass on the new rates to their consumers by Nov. 1, said ERC chair Rodolfo B. Albano Jr. (See related story on page A5.)

But considering that Meralco and other electricity distributors

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

project to start now.

muter train project.

Page A2.)

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo

wants work on the North Rail

marching orders to Northrail

president Jose Cortez Jr. yester-

day, just 10 hours after she re-

turned from her state visit to Chi-

na, which is funding the com-

Ms Arroyo expressed irritation

that Northrail was dragging its

feet on the construction of the

Metro Manila-to-Clark (Pampan-

ga) commuter train even after

China had released the \$400-mil-

lion funding for the first phase,

which would run up to Malolos,

Also during yesterday's pulong

Bulacan. (See related story on

bayan, held at the LRT 2 (San-

The increase granted by the have to go through a process of filing a petition for an adjustment in the generation rate and having this approved, consumers would likely feel the increase in January 2005, said Albano.

It is cold comfort for customers of Meralco who, starting this month, will have to pay an additional 17.37 centavos per kWh, the third generation rate adjustment (GRAM) petition from Meralco to be approved.

Militants instantly denounced the ERC approval, saying the government was exploiting the fiscal crisis to justify an increase in Napocor's rates,

The rate hike is an unnecessary burden for consumers if only NAPOCOR/AS

tolan-Recto) station in Cubao,

Quezon City, the President an-

nounced a new acronym for her

"10-point legacy"- "BEAT THE

ODS"-each letter of which

Building transportation and

communication linkages being

one of her programs, she tackled

the transportation projects in the

pulong bayan where she was

joined by Vice President Noti de

Castro, Transportation Secretary

Leandro Mendoza, Public Works

Secretary Florante Soriquez,

Metro Manila Development Au-

thority Chair Bayani Fernando,

Sen. Mar Roxas and other offi-

grams in her six-year term.



A MOTHER embraces her injured son who escaped from a seized school in Beslan, Russia. More than 300 people, most of them children, died when Russian commandos stormed the school on Friday.

Russia mourns 322 dead in siege

BESLAN, Russsia-Russia was plunged into mourning Saturday at the brutal and bloody end to a three-day school slege which left 322 children and adults dead, and many of the 1,000 hostages lying injured in hospitals.

President Vladimir Putin, who had vowed the safety of the hostages was his top priority, paid a surprise pre-dawn visit to the southern town of Beslan and said the whole of Russia shared its grief.

The ITAR-Tass news agency quoted Russian Deputy Prosecutor Sergei Fridinsky as saying 322 bodies, including those of 155 children, had been recovered from the school in Beslan. That raised the death toll well beyond the 250 officials had previously cited.

Officials said more than 500 were wounded in the crisis, which ended in a wave of violence Friday, and there were fears the toll would rise. Commandos stormed the building and battled militants as crying children, some naked and covered with blood, managed to flee through explosions and gunfire after three days during which the hostage takers had herded them into the school gym, denied them food and water and threatened to kill them.

The press described the nightmarish scenes as the RUSSIA'A10

GMA says amen to not taxing the church

By Juliet Labog-Javellana and Michelle V. Remo

NO WAY will President Macapagal-Arroyo allow the Catholic Church and religious groups to be

Ms Arroyo said she secured The President yesterday avertfunding for the North Rail project ed a potential showdown when during her visit to China. She said she firmly put her foot down on a of our society," she said in a state-

means of helping the cash-

strapped government. "The Church is the guardian of the spiritual welfare of the Filipino people and charitable work is part of its mission to uplift the moral and spiritual foundations

proposal to slap taxes on church ment the morning after she flew gious organizations. property and enterprises as a home from a three-day state visit to China.

> "This should be placed beyond the pule of money matters and we do not agree to taxing the Church," she added.

But the Department of Finance is seeking an audit of the tax remittances of churches and reli-

Finance Undersecretary Grace Tan pointed out that only religious services or non-profit activities that fulfilled the objective of spreading religion-like baptismal, matrimonial and funeral

services-were tax-exempt. "But the law is clear that profit-

Top teachers tell inspiring tales, dreams

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

"WHY DO you waste your time with those unlovable children," weil-meaning people often ask 40-year-old Annabelle Catimbang, who has been teaching the hearing-impaired and autistic children of Iriga City for the last 19 years.

"This is my mission," Catimbang

She and 11 other Special Education (SPED) teachers at the Iriga City Integrated Special School refuse to let such remarks discourage them from their chosen work. In makeshift classrooms at the Iriga City Sports Complex, they teach their special children-mostly hearingimpaired, with some autistics and a few mentally-handicapped youngsters.

Catimbang is among this year's 10 Outstanding Teachers chosen by the

the state of the s



are (standing from left) Noel Solis, Dr. Antonio Miguel Dans, Mellrose Peralta, Allan

Canonigo, Dr. Manuel Dy Jr. Seated, from loft, are Mariecon Ramirez, Josephine

Deligente, Genersol Monton, Annabelle Catimbang and Lina Jala.

Controversial bills stir new debates on policy

SPECIAL

REPORT

By Volt Contreras

(Last of three parts)

YOUR taxes were spent to save the life of captured Abu Sayyaf leader Ghalib An- Lagman and the counterpart Senate Bill No. dang, aka Commander Robot. The state 2325 of Sen. Rodolfo Biazon call on the

spends to feed death convicts thrice a day, or to treat a wounded insurgent who fell into military hands. So why can't society be as

kind to a woman who is bleeding to death or is at risk of infection after the INQUIUM, Lagman and Biazon maincommitting the "crime" of abortion?

The 13th Congress is seeing the revival of bills calling for a comprehensive national policy on reproductive health (RH) and population management. Apart from sparking fresh debates on the prickly issue of family planning, they advance a view that may

draw as much scrutiny: that women who undergo illegal abortions are also entitled to humane treatment and good medical care.

House Bill No. 16 of Albay Rep. Edcel

state to guarantee women's access to a wide range of RH services that should include management of post-abortion complications.

In separate interviews with tained that they were not condoning or encouraging abortion, or fueling calls for its eventual decriminalization.

They said their intention was simply for the health sector to extend a compassionate hand to a woman who had un-

CONTROVERSIAL/ ALO

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Eastern Luzon, Visayas and Mindaruo will experience mostly cloudy sides with scattered rainshowers. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers. The rist of the country will be parily clourainshowers.

COMPRED BY BAYTEYESA, POPRESEARCH/04/28/02

Second FR

Cloudy with Rains Cloudy with Rains Cloudy with Rains Cloudy with Rains

Text gambling plan opposed

SMART Communications, the country's largest mobile phone company, yesterday opposed the plan of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor) to operate games of chance through cellular phones, saying it will promote gambling among the youth.

users are young people, including a large number of minors. Pagcor's plan to offer games of chance through mobile phones would inevitably expose them to the dangers of getting hooked on gambling," said Dr. Rogelio V Quevedo, legal counsel and carrier relations head of Smart.

Pageor had informed the National Telecommunications Commission in July that it would operate games of chance through cellular phones in order to generare additional revenue for the cash-strapped government.

In the furtherance of its mandate as the exclusive provider of gaming activities in the country, and in order to generate revenue for the national government, Pagcon intends to operate games of chance through the internet and wireless mobile cellular networks in the country," Pageor had said in a letter to NTC.

To implement the plan, Pageor asked the NTC to grant it four access numbers to handle text and multi-media messages for the purpose of operating games of Pageor had asked the NTC to 20-percent share, he said.

disputed Spratly Islands in order

to determine the extent of its

petroleum deposits could lead to

the actual "sharing" between the

two countries of the potential re-

sources of the island chain, a law-

Sen. Aquilino "Nene" Pimentel,

who represented the opposition in

President Macapagal-Arroyo's state

visit to China last week, said this

was the "unstated" intention behind

the accord to conduct a joint seismic

study of the potentially oil-rich area

1, the first day of Ms Arroyo's

The agreement, signed on Sept.

maker said vesterday.

in the South China Sea.

The majority of cellular phone chance through mobile phones. These access numbers were 888, 777, 878 and 787.

But Quevedo said it was the position of Smart "that we are against allowing games of chance to be made available through our mobile phone network." "That is why Smart will not give access numbers to Pagcor," he added.

Pageor plans to take a share of the revenues of SMS-based games by requiring cellular operators to course all text traffic in connection with these games through the four access numbers. But Pagcor had no estimate of how much would be generated by the games.

The NTC, however, has not acted on Pageor's request for access numbers, saying that it wanted to ensure that minors would be prohibited from participating in text gambling.

We agree with the objective of the NTC. We are aware that it will be difficult, if not impossible, to keep minors from accessing these games of chance once they are offered through mobile phones," Quevedo said.

He added that it was ironic that

Study on Spratlys could lead

to 'condo style' sharing-Nene

claimed in whole and in part by

the Philippines, China, Vietnam

At the weekly Sulo Hotel media

forum in Quezon City, Pimentel

said, 'The best thing that can be

said of the trip is that it started

some concrete, modest steps to

Referring to the Spratlys agree-

ment, he said: "Unstated is the in-

tent of the Philippines and China

to eventually propose a 'condo-

minium' development approach

to the utilization of resources that

In an interview, Pimentel ex

may be discovered in the islets..."

ease tensions in the Spratlys."

and three other Asian countries.

tighten its supervision of telecom firms to stop the heavy betting that was going on through mobile phones on the results of basket-

"Cellular operators are being unfairly blamed for a problem that is beyond their control. Meantime, Pagcor is proposing to operate games of chance through

mobile phones," Quevedo said. The prevalence of text gambling even on school campuses had prompted the Department of Education to ban the use of cellphones during class hours.

The Department of Justice earlier proposed the ban of cellphones on campuses in reaction to reported high-stakes gambling activities among students, particularly in private high schools.

Earlier, Pageor spokesperson Edward King said the gaming agency would like all text games to be coursed through numbers that Pageor could regulate.

"In the event that we classify any game of chance on TV or texting, then we would ask them to centralize this through the numbers so Pageor could regulate them," King said.

This way, Pagcor would have an idea of how much telecom companies earned from text gaming and it could collect the government's

"The direction (set by the

agreement) is to share resources

the sea underneath the Sprattys

may have so as to avoid resorting

to force to settle the [territorial]

the condominium approach, the

joint use of facilities and re-

has been applied to the North Sea

whose waters were opened to

fishermen from surrounding Eu-

ropean countries. Volt Contreras

sources," the senator added.

"The next conceivable step is

This principle, for example,

by many occup

by one person."

dispute," he said.



AGAINST the backdrop of a train, President Arroyo stresses the need to complete the metro light rail loop to ease traffic in the metropolis, during the "pulong bayan" held yesterday at the MRT station in Cubao. Beside her is her "co-emcee" Vice President Noli de Castro.

GMA, Mar Roxas bat for metro rail system

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

HE'S NOT just Mr. Palengke. You can also call him Mr. MRT.

Sen. Mar Roxas yesterday became President Macapagal-Ar-THE AGREEMENT forged be- three-day visit, will determine the plained that the "condominium" royo's poster boy for the light rail tween the Philippines and China presence of oil and gas in the dis- approach basically conveys the system when it was revealed that to conduct a seismic study of the puted islands which are being idea of "a building being owned the wealthy bachelor takes the train to get to the Senate.

> "Even if Mar Roxas is very rich, he Jused tol take the Metro Rail Transit here in Cubao up to Makati when he was (trade) secretary," Ms Arroyo said, as Rozas arrived to join her at the "pulong bayan" held at the Light Rail Transit Line 2 (Santolan-Recto) station at the Araneta Center in Cubao, Quezon City.

That's right, Mrs. President. Even up to now we ride (the MRT 3) in going to the Senate. This time I alight at the Taft-Edsa (station) so I (avoid) all the traffic," Roxas said.

Roxas, who ran on Ms Arroyo's ticket, topped the May 2004 senatorial polls with an unprecedented 19 million votes, the highest ever garnered in the history of Philippine elections. He ran as Mr. Palengke, the champion of market vendors.

The President said Roxas was the host of the "pulong bayan," being the grandson of Amado Araneta who founded the Araneta commercial center.

"Our number-one senator, Mar Roxas, is here because he inherited Cubao from his grandfather, Don Amading Araneta, so he is our host [for the town hall meeting], not as a senator but as the grandson of the owner," she said.

With transportation as the subject of yesterday's meeting, Ms Arroyo stressed the importance of lem in the metropolis," she said.

the MRT 3 loop, which runs from North Avenue in Quezon City to Taft Avenue in Pasay City via Edsa, and LRT 2 which runs from Santolan in Cubao to Recto Avenue in Manila. The two lines intersect at Cubao, allowing MRT 3 and LRT 2 riders to transfer to the other line.

"That is a very important loop. We will complete that (loop) so that wherever you live and work, you just need one jeepney ride to the train station and when you alight, it's just another short jeepney ride to your place of work," she said.

Vice President Noli de Castro, Ms Arrovo's co-host in the weekly pulong bayan," then pointed out that some car owners had taken to riding the MRT. (See related story on PAge A6)

Ms Arroyo asked Transportation Secretary Leandro Mendoza where car owners could park their vehicles if they opt to take the train.

Mendoza started explaining park-and-ride terminals were being constructed in Valenzuela and Pasay cities.

"But why are the parking areas far from the (train) stations?" she

Ms Arroyo then pointed to the MRT 3 main station on North Avenue, which would be extended up to Monumento in Caloocan

This one first. North Avenue to Monumento (which has not yet been constructed]. I am so impatient over this. I don't want to talk about other [transportation] projects until work on this has been started because this [completed MRT 3] can solve the traffic prob-

OFWs may soon be headed for Iraq-Bunye

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

THE ADMINISTRATION appears close to lifting the ban on the deployment of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) to Iraq.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye yesterday said members of the Middle East Preparedness Team and the Iraq Team had recommended the deployment of workers to some parts of Iraq.

The situation is continuously under review," Bunye said in an RMN radio interview. "There is no definite decision by the President yet but based on the study of our 2 so-called Middle East Group, Middle East Team, along with the Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Labor, especially the OWWA (Overseas Workers Welfare Administration), it appears there are some places that are relatively safe for our workers.

"So this is being studied and we will probably have a decision on this very soon," he said.

Ms Arroyo stopped the deployment of Filipino workers to Iraq after truck driver Angelo de la Cruz was abducted by Iraqi rebels in July.

The President was forced to comply with the Iraqi militants' demand to withdraw the Philippines' 51-man humarriagian contingent from Iraq to save De la Cruz from being decapitated.

The decision angered the United States and other members of the Coalition of the Willing, some 😸 40 countries which supported the US-led invasion of Iraq.

Abu Sabaya's sister nabbed in Basilan

ISABELA CITY, Basilan-Police on Friday arrested the younger sister of the late Abu Sayyaf spokesperson Abu Sabaya for her alleged involvement in the bandit group's activities, particularly the May 2001 raid on the Dos Palmas Resort in Palawan.

Senior Supt. Bensali Jabarani, Basilan police director, identified her as Satra Abdulaup Tillah, 40.

Several people, including American missionary-couple Martin and Gracia Burnham, were abducted in the raid. Most of the victims were released after they allegedly paid ransom.

Martin Burnham was killed during a botched military rescue operation in Zamboanga del Norte in 2002. His wife Gracia was rescued.

Sabaya was believed killed in another military operation off the Zamboanga coast. His body which fell into the water was never recovered.

Jabarani said Tillah, a nurse, provided logistics to the Abu Sayyaf and served as custodian of Sabaya's share of the ransom.

"She was also involved in the financing and medical requirements of the bandits," Jabarani told the INQUIRER.

Ricardo Cabaron, assistant state prosecutor for Western Mindanao, said former hostages in. the Dos Palmas raid and victims of the Abu Sayyaf in Lamitan had said Tillah had cooperated with the bandit group on several occasions. Julie S. Alipala, PDI Min-

RP to pursue defense talks with China

FOLLOWING President Macapagal-Arroyo's state visit to China, Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz is set to visit the country again for a high-level dialogue with his counterpart there to discuss and enhance defense cooperation between the two nations.

"I will schedule a visit to China to establish a dialogue first on a higher level for possible areas of defense cooperation," Cruz said in an interview with reporters at Camp Aguinaldo.

Among the issues to be discussed, he said, is the possibility of conducting joint military exercises between the two countries.

can enter."

But Cruz had not yet set a schedule for the China visit. He said he would wait for the report of Defense Assistant Secretary for Policy and Special Concerns Alejandro Melchor before scheduling the trip. Melchor, who was part of Ms Arroyo's parry to China, is in charge of international policy and relations for the Department of National De-

"This will definitely be highlevel since there were political, economic and cultural talks (during the President's trip). So

"It will be a dialogue first so we the issue of defense cooperacan talk about which areas we tion was also discussed," Cruz said.

For his part, Armed Forces of the Philippines Chief of Staff Gen. Narciso Abaya said he had received an invitation from his Chinese counterpart.

Abaya said he might visit China this month.

Defense cooperation between the two countries was agreed upon in separate closed-door meetings between Ms Arroyo and Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao and his predecessor, Jiang Zemin, who now chairs the communist party's powerful military commission.

Alcuin Papa

Arriving passengers at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport are required to step into a chemical footbath to prevent the entry of the bird flu virus into the country, after an outbreak of the disease was noted in Malaysia.

Ex-polls chief calls for new code

By Martin P. Marfil

A FORMER chair of the Commission on Elections has proposed the enactment of a new election code that would rid the country of political dynasties, allow sectoral representation in local government councils and improve the absentee voting system.

Christian Monsod said new election code should "give more meaning to the right of suffrage. level the playing field, widen access to public office and democratize participation in the affairs of government.

Aside from a new election

appointment of impartial, competent and honest Comelec commissioners as part of the country's electoral reforms.

He also proposed refining voters registration by giving permanent numbers that could be integrated with other systems in government like the Social Security System, the Government Service Insurance Sysrem, birth certificates and pass-

Instead of spending for voter registration, he said Comelec should focus on less expensive ways to address cheating.

"It is distressing to hear new

code, Monsod also proposed the commissioners always suggesting as their first project another general registration to "finally clear up the voters' lists," he said.

According to Monsod, the Comelec has a strong bureaucracy which is capable of delivering the most modern elections.

"But it is a bureaucracy and the commissioners influence to a large extent how many of them will behave. How an intelligent appointing power can miss that opportunity for leadership is difficult to comprehend," Monsod said during a speech before participants of the Second Electoral Reform Summit last week.



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GMA says amen to not taxing the church





The UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS Faculty of Medicine and Surgery **Admissions Committee**

is now accepting applications for first year Medicine for school year 2005-2006. Application forms are available at the Admissions Office, 2/F St. Martin de Porres (Medicine) Building. (Application forms may also be downloaded from www.ust.edu.ph/sitelinks/ academics/Medicine.asp?progid=07).

The filing of applications has been set from September 13, 2004 to November 26, 2004. Applicants with surnames A-Hshould file their application from Sept. 13-30, 2004. Applicants with surnames I-P should file their application from Oct. 4-29, 2004. Applicants with surnames Q-Z should file their application from Nov. 4-26, 2004.

The interview, an important parameter for admission, will be conducted starting November 8, 2004.

"Proud to be Thomasians at 400"

The Personnel Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP) invites all educators, people managers, and the youth:



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oriented activities, such as the selling of rosaries and other religious items, are taxable," said Tan, the DOF official in charge of tax-related matters.

Tan said profits from investments by religious groups, the lease of their land, and the rent from dormitories operated by Churchrun schools were also liable to tax.

She said the Bureau of Internal Revenue should begin an audit of the tax compliance of religious groups.

"I don't know if they are remitting taxes," she said, adding that the DOF was eager to determine whether the government was collecting the proper income and value-added taxes from profit-oriented church activities.

Drawing the line

Taxing the Church and religious groups was among the various proposals raised by certain officials and legislators after the President admitted that the country was in dire financial straits and asked Congress to pass eight new tax laws to raise P80 billion.

She has cut by 40 percent the pork barrel of lawmakers for next year and instituted a government-wide austerity program aimed at saving P20 billion to address the severe budget deficit.

But Ms Arroyo, a devout Catholic who was elected to a fresh term partly with the vote of religious groups, drew the line on religion.

She said her administration had laid down a "detailed and concrete action plan on how the fiscal crisis could effectively be averted," referring to the eight proposed new taxes and her austerity program.

"And we believe this is all that matters," she

We are not turning to the Church or other religious groups as a source of revenue."

The President made her position clear after Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales and Bro. Mike Velarde of the Catholic charismatic group El Shaddai criticized the proposal to tax church property, including well-known schools and educational institutions.

Malacañang also appealed to legislators to put a priority on the passage of revenue mea-sures to address the budget deficit before reviving moves to amend the Constitution.

The President is committed to changing our form of government, but we are focused at the moment on addressing the serious financial challenge we are facing," Press Secre-



PRESIDENT Arroyo executes a salute upon her arrival Friday from a state visit to China.

tary Ignacio Bunye said yesterday.

"There will be a time for political change after we have eased the economic situation," Bunye said.

Civic groups, too

Undersecretary Tan said calling for an audit of the tax remittance of churches and religious groups should also lead to the scrutiny of the tax compliance of civic organizations.

She said churches and civic groups fell under the same category in the National Internal Revenue Code and, therefore, the coverage and limits of the tax-exempt privilege of religious groups also held true for the latter.

"We have to do this with caution because there might be a question of equity," she said. "Like the Church, the activities of groups that are solely intended for the promotion of social welfare are tax-exempt, but their profit-orlented activities are [not]."

Tan said it was proper for the BIR, the government's main revenue-collecting agency under the DOF, to conduct an audit given the popular misconception on the tax exemption of churches and civic organizations.

She said the DOF suspected that some of these groups had been remiss in their tax obligations because of this misconception.

Top teachers tell

Metrobank Foundation for their "outstanding contribution to the teaching profession, personal integrity and character, competence and professional and community in-

Her story is inspiring. While a lot of other SPED teachers have gone abroad for better pay, she has decided to stay.

Nine years ago, when the privately-run SPED school in the city closed down and the special children had nowhere to go, Catimbang continued to teach them. She began with 32 students whom she taught by herself for six months. Soon, other teachers

Today, they have 104 students. Catimbang teaches the hearing-impaired in Grades 1 and 2 and personally tutors two autistic children. Her 17-year-old daughter, the eldest in a brood of five, also reaches ballet to the kids.

Despite what she has already accomplished, she would like to reach out to other special children whose parents had given up on them, or were just too poor to send them to special schools.

Catimbang and her husband are not welloff themselves, but they do what they can to help their students.

Music is her life

Another awardee, 57-year-old Lina Jala, has dedicated 36 years of her life teaching music to grade school students at the Triple Union Elementary School in her hometown of

Jala, who never had any formal training in music, learned to play the piano at age four from her mother,

As a music teacher, she taught and accompanied on the piano the Loboc Children's Choir. Last year, she and the choir won the grand

prize in a choral competition in Barcelona, Spain, and went on a concert tour of 10 European cities, including the Vatican, from September to November. Despite the hardship of being a public

school teacher, Jala wouldn't trade teaching for anything. It's enough that her students turn out well and still remember her.

"I have students who are already working and earning high salaries, yet they remember me," she says. "That's the joy of teaching."

What makes her job hard, she adds, is when some of her students drop out before finishing high school. Right now, she's helping three former students enter college.

Although Jala is due to retire in three years, she says she will never stop teaching. "I enjoy my work, I love being with children. I love playing and singing with them. They make me feel young."

The English teacher

Meilrose Peralta, 35, another awardee, admits that at first, she didn't want to be a teacher. But since her parents were retired division

superintendents, it was inevitable.

She had no regrets.

Peralta teaches English at the Kidapawan. City Pilot Elementary School. She put up the school publication, The Pilot Gazette, which has been cited as one of the country's best school papers. She also trains students for regional writing competitions.

Her heart swells with pride when her students succeed despite the setback of poverty.

"I try to encourage them. I tell them to do their best," she says. "I notice that it's the poor students who work hard and are motivated to excel."

She cites two former honor students struggling against all odds to finish high school: Albert Antipuesto, who's in third year, and Hope Earl Borongan, who's in second year. Both are students at the Kidapawan City National High

"I hope they finish and go on to college," she prays fervently, like they were her own

Peralta has been a teacher for 14 years and has turned down several opportunities to go

"I believe I was meant to teach, I'm here to stay," she says.

Dedicated to teaching

The seven other Outstanding Teachers chosen by the Metrobank Foundation are:

Josephine Deligente, 49, who has been teaching Filipino for 28 years at the Fernando Ma. Guerrero Elementary School in Paco,

Genersol Monton, 46, is a Biology teacher ar the Fort Bonifacio High School in Makati

Mariecon Ramirez, at 33, is one of the youngest awardees and has been teaching English at the flocos Norte National High School in Laoag City for the last 13 years.

Allan Canonigo, 33, has been a Math teacher for the last 12 years at the New Ormoc City National High School.

Noel Solis, 36, is a Biology teacher at the Zamboanga del Norte National High School in Dipolog City.

Dr. Antonio Miguel Dans, 46, is a medical professor at the University of the Philippines in Manila and a cardiologist at the Philippine General Hospital. His mission, the good doctor says, is to promote "professional ethics in the medical practice."

Dr. Manuel Dy Jr., S7, is a Philosophy professor at the Ateneo de Manila University In Quezon City and is involved in community

The 10 awardees were feted at a dinner last Wednesday at the Philippine Daily Inquirer

They were awarded their trophies and P200,000 each in cash in formal ceremonies at the Metrobank Plaza auditorium in Makati

Tomorrow, they will receive their gold medallions from President Macapagal-Arroyo in Malacañang.

Napocor . . .

From page Al

to address Napocor's ballooning losses. The government could have stopped Napocor's financial bleeding if it had renegotiated or canceled Napocor's expensive and onerous contracts with (independent power producers),' said the Freedom from Debt Coalition.

Every increase in the Napocor generation charge results in another electricity hike application from Meralco and other distribution utilities that buy power from the state utility.

The generation charge appears in customers' utility bills as the GRAM, a cost-recovery scheme that replaced the purchased power adjustment (PPA) last year and which allows Napocor and electricity distributors to pass on the fluctuations in fuel prices and the currency exchange rate to consumers.

GRAM charges go directly to Napocor and the independent power producers from which distributors like Meralco buy their

In justifying the hike, Albano said the provisional rate increase would provide "relief to Napocor's operations, avert financial losses and help reduce the country's budget deficit."

The debt-ridden Napocor has been a major factor in the continued deterioration of the country's fiscal position and the government's inability to sustain a debt-reduction program.

Saddled with some P1.3 trillion in debts, Napocor has for years struggled to stay afloat. Its losses have been one of the biggest drag on the country's consolidated public sector deficit and delays in its privatization continue to bleed the government's finances.

In the face of a looming fiscal crisis, the government has decided on drastic measures to stem Napocor's losses which continue to swell because of the state firm's inability to increase its rates.

As part of a six-year fiscal program unveiled last week, the Arroyo administration said it planned to increase Napocor's charges to generate an additional P75 billion.

The Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp., the agency overseeing Napocor's privatization, has long wanted to peg Napocor's generation rates to market rates to stoke foreign investor interest. An increase in Napocor's charges would help reduce its operating losses and make it more attractive to investors.

In its June 22 petition for a power rate hike, Napocor said the increase would allow the state firm to raise its profitability to the minimum 8 percent return on rate base set by its foreign creditors.

The latest data showed that the power firm has a return on rate base of negative 1.77. It has not seen a positive operating income since before the Asian financial crisis of 1977.

Albano said the ERC granted a lower increase than what Napocor had requested because of some corrections in the valuation methods that the state utility used to determine its rate base and other computations.

For instance, costs arising from foreign exchange fluctuations which Napocor had included in its petition should be recovered through another recovery mechanism-the incremental currency exchange rate adjustment, he said.

The ERC will continue to hold public hearings on the rate increase and receive additional evidence from all interested parties before it issues a final order "before year-end," said

"As provisional authority, the rate relief is subject to refund should the final determination of rates be lower than those authorized,"

According to Albano, the provisional rate hike would raise P110 billion yearly in additional revenue for Napocor. But Napocor and PSALM officials said they

expected to realize only about P35 billion a year. Napocor president Rogelio Murga said the

firm respected the ERC order although the increase was "considerably lower than we were asking for." "The rates still do not reflect the true cost

of power. For instance, while the new rates in the Visayas would be P3.03 a kWh, we are spending about P3.40 for fuel alone," he

PSALM president Raphael Lotilla said any amount would help Napocor achieve financial viability and continue its operations.

"This would also help improve the value of its generating assets. The privatization is still on track," Lotilla said, adding that they would now work on getting the final authority for rates that were closer to what the firm need-

Nonito Bernardo, PSALM's vice president for finance, said the additional rates would raise P8 billion for Napocor from September to December.

"That means Napocor's projected net loss in 2004 would go down to P106 billion from P114 billion," he said. Napocor suffered a net loss of P113 billion in 2003.

Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) spokesperson Renato Reyes Jr. condemned the ERC order that gave the biggest rate hike to Napocor since the Electric Power Reform Act was passed in 2001.

"The ERC approved a rate hike even when hearings were still in progress and oppositors were still in the process of questioning the necessity of the increase," Reyes said.

The militant group complained that the ERC held only about four public hearings on the petition and many questions still needed

to be answered. "Napocor said a rate increase was intended to recoup its losses so that it can be privatized. Privatization is not an acceptable basis for rate-setting and cannot be used to justify a rate increase," Reyes said.

How Napocor rates affect electricity rates

Corp.'s generation charge means a round of electricity rate increases as Napocor is the main source of power for electricity distributors nationwide.

These distribution utilities include Manila Electric Co., Visayan Electric Co., Cagayan de Oro Power and Light Co., Davao Light and Power Co. and the electric cooperatives that serve the provinces and those areas not connected to the main power grids.

Energy Regulatory Commission chair Rodolfo Albano said consumers would likely start to feel the increase in Jan-

AN INCREASE in National Power crease approved by the ERC would mean an increase in Napocor's basic rate of up to P3.80 per kWh in Luzon, P3.04 per kWh in the Visayas and P2.07 per kWh in Mindanao.

This would translate to an increase of P1.23 per kWh in Luzon, 22 centavos per kWh in the Visayas and about 27 centavos in Mindanao.

For consumers in Luzon who use up to 200 kWh a month, the new rates would mean an additional P246 in their electricity bills, consumers in the Visayas would pay P44 more, while those in Mindanao would pay P54 more.

However, this will apply only for customers of distribution utilities that get

their power entirely from Napocor.

For utilities with multiple sources, the additional charges will affect only the part that applies to Napocor costs. The final computation of the increased rate would depend on how much of the power was sourced from Napocor and how much had come from independent producers (JPPs).

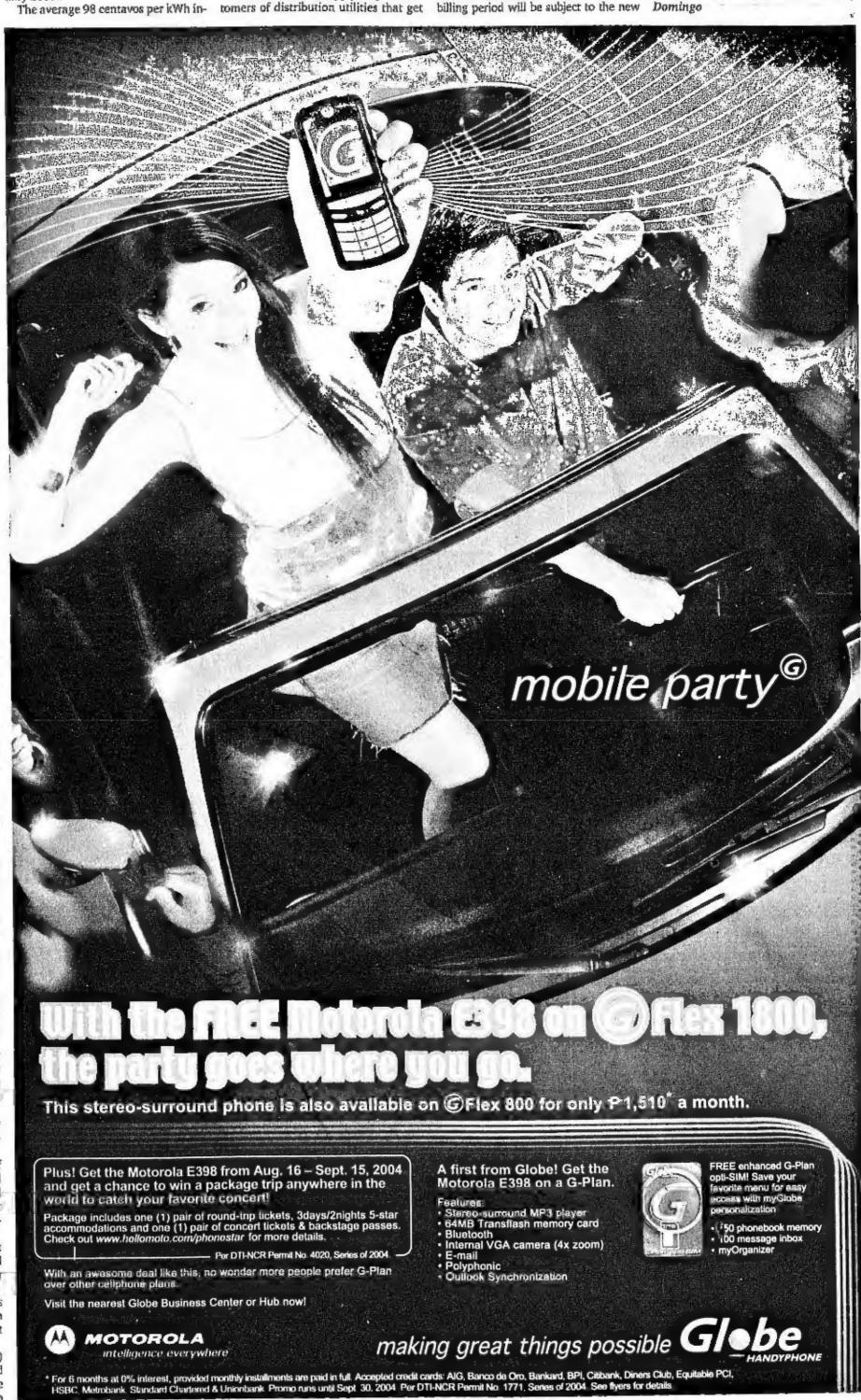
For instance, Meralco, the largest of the distribution utilities with a customer base of about four million, buys only 50 percent of its power from Napocor, sourcing the rest from IPPs owned by the firm's controlling group, the Lopez family.

Thus, only half of the electricity that a Meralco customer consumes within a billing period will be subject to the new

increase. If the Meralco customer used up 200 kWh, for instance, he or she would pay an additional P123 from the approved increase. Assuming of course that the cost of power that Meralco bought from its affiliated IPPs did not change.

Still, Meralco and the other distributors cannot pass on the additional costs from Napocor charges until they file a petition to do so and until the ERC approves their petition.

Albano said consumers who use up to 100 kWh or less are entitled to a discount of up to 50 percent, depending on the schedule of discounts applied by their particular distributors. Ronnel W.



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'Kabayan'

President'

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

to be 'acting

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VICE President Noti de Castro

would be "acting President" four

more times before the year is over.

ing the "pulong bayan" (town hall meeting) yesterday, the morning after she returned from

a three-day state visit to China. Ms Arroyo will leave next week for Brunei. Next month, she will fly to Vietnam to attend the Asia-Eu-

rope Meeting. On the last week of

November, she will join leaders of

the Pacific Rim nations for the Asia-

Pacific Economic Cooperation sum-

mit in Chile. Then she will go to Laos

for the annual meeting of the Associ-

Ms Arroyo designated De Castro

De Castro, however, did not both-

Ms Arroyo openly praised De

Castro, not for his work as care-

taker, but for his timely knowl-

edge about an issue discussed in

yesterday's meeting which cen-

tered on transportation projects.

hour meeting, Ms Arroyo was com-

plaining why work on the North Rail

project could not begin immediately

even after the Chinese government,

which is financing the commuter

train project, had released the initial

Correz Jr. explained that squatters on the railroad tracks were

De Castro answered that the

"Oh, you're the one in charge of this now. Excuse me, you're the one

National Housing Authority has

already relocated squatters in the

we should be interviewing," a smil-

ing Ms Arroyo said to her seat mate.

was about to make her plea for reio-

cation, Ms Arroyo asked if the North

Rail project would pass by Malabon

and De Castro again butted in, con-

"Noli has memorized his job,

firming it would pass there.

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president Jose

\$400 million funding.

delaying the project.

Caloocan portion.

Northrail

At one point in the televised one-

government caretaker during her

three-day absence earlier this week.

er to go to Malacañang to attend the

meetings of the caretaker committee headed by Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita. It appeared that his

while the President was away.

ation of Southeast Asian Nations.

President Macapagal-Arroyo broke the news to De Castro dur-

4 Sundays of terror start today for aspiring lawyers

By Philip C. Tubeza

MORE than 5,000 law graduates are set to take the 2004 bar exams beginning today.

In a statement, the Supreme Court said 5,421 examinees will take the tests to be given at De La Salle University, Taft Ave., Maniia, on the next four Sundays.

Deputy clerk of court and bar

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ANNOUNCES THE OPENING FOR SY 2005-2006

Metro Manila Development Authority will secure the area with patrol cars and bomb disposal units.

Layusa urged examinees to come early since the annual Alay Lakad along Roxas Boulevard could affect traffic in the area.

She said the DLSU gates would be opened at 5 a.m. while the portion of Taft Avenue from Quirino Avenue to confident Ma. Cristina B. Layusa Pablo Ocampo St. (formerly Viso Cruz)

said the Manila police and the would be closed to traffic from 4 a.m. ing is chair of this year's examinato 6 p.m. during the exam days.

Aside from the police, medical and dental teams would also be deployed near La Salle, Layusa said.

She said the court has assigned more than 1,000 of its personnel to ensure the dean conduct of the exams. These include superintendents, supervisors, watchers, bar assistants and special assistants.

Justice Leonardo A. Quisumb-

tion committee. Exam results will be released in April 2005.

This year's tests will be the first to be held after the Supreme Court instituted reforms in the bar examinations.

One of the reforms, which would take effect next year. would bar law graduates from taking the exams if they had failed it three times.

The court said examinees may make a fourth or fifth try after they successfully complete a oneyear course for each exam: Those who fail five or more times shall be allowed to make one more try if they take the refresher course.

TO COME OF EXPRESSION PROPERTY SHAPE SHAPE

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Under the Rules of Court, examinees pass the exam if they obtain a general average of 75 percent from all the subjects without falling below 50 percent in any subject.

Pinay shopper stung by scorpion inside Hong Kong supermarket

HONG KONG-A Filipino woman was stung by a scorpion hiding inside a fresh fruit pack at a Hong Kong supermarket, the store's spokeswoman said

Teresa Abad Cielos felt a sharp pain on her left hand and saw a scorpion crawling on the fruit Wednesday, said Diane Chiu, a spokeswoman for the Wellcome supermarket chain.

Cielos felt shaky from the sting and went to a hospital to receive treatment, Chiu said.

She took a picture of the 2.5-centimeter (1inch) long scorpion with her mobile phone to show doctors.

"I was really shocked and frightened to find it was a scorpion lying on the ground," Cielos was quoted as saying in the South China Morning Post.

The supermarket is investigating how the scorpion found its way into the pack of "long ku," a tropical fruit imported from Thailand, Chiu said. No other scorpions were found, she said.

"It's a very rare and individual case," Chiu said. "It's never happened before in the 59-year history of

Chiu said the store had apologized to Cielos, who is from the Philippines, and would reimburse her medical expenses.



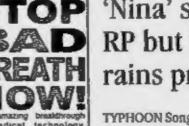
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code name) became "Nina" when it entered the extreme northern portion of the Philippine area of responsibility on Friday afternoon.

warned that Nina may induce rainshowers and thunderstorms today over Northern Luzon, including the flooded provinces in Central Luzon.

Nina, however, is not seen to directly affect the archipelago. It will be closest to the Batanes group of islands on Monday morning when it is expected to

As of yesterday afternoon, Nina was located 1,150 km east northeast of Basco, Batanes, with maximum center winds of 160 kph and gustiness of 190 kph. It was moving west at 15 kph.

ter the country this year, said Pagasa weather plotter Blessy Bartolome. The Philippines experiences an annual average of 30 to 35 typhoons. EDROPEAN TECHNOLOGY FOR HALF THE PRICE!

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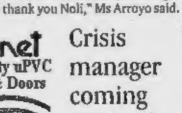
'Nina' spares functions were limited to "ceremonial duties," such as receiving visitors RP but heavy rains predicted

TYPHOON Songda (international

Weather forecasters yesterday

hit land in Taiwan.

Nina is the 14th typhoon to en-



to Manila

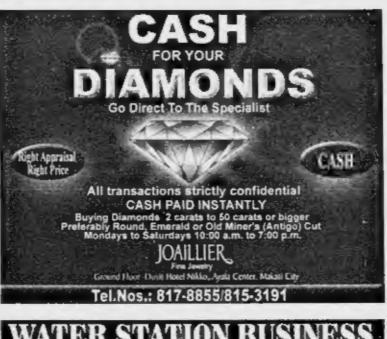
IN THESE troubled times, Nova-X Solurions, a business intelligence provider of niche markets, is bringing to Manila Warren Thompson, director of crisis management at Burson-Marsteller, Australia, for a workshop on Crisis Management on Sept. 6-7 at the Hotel Inter-Continental, Makati City.

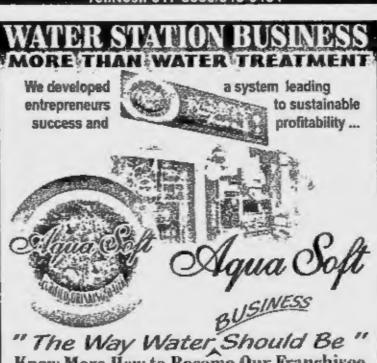
The interactive clinic will offer participants an inside look into case studies of such brand names Nike, Shell, Panadol, Enron and Keppel Shipyard which at some point, had gone through

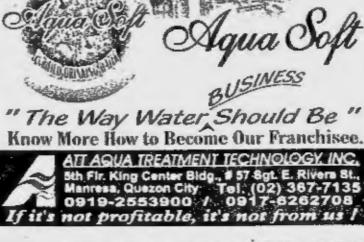
Thompson has over; 20 years consulting experience and is regarded as one of Asia's leading crisis-preparedness and disaster recovery. specialists.

their own crises.

His clients include Abbort Australia, Lucent Technologies, ANZ Banking Corp., Argyle Diamonds, Power, Millmerran Australian Water Services, Energex, Inter-Gen and Sanofi-Synthelabo, among others. He has worked in Indonesia, China, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Singapore, the US, Vietnam and Western Samoa.



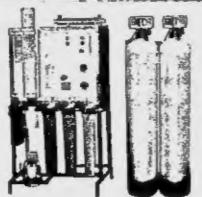












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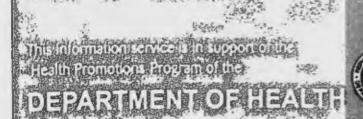
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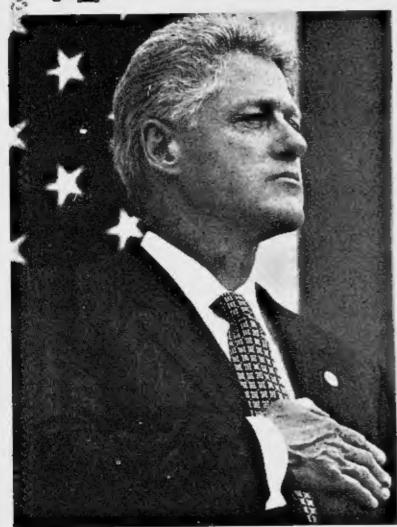




The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco-

Clinton to undergo heart bypass surgery next week



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CLINTON in a May 31, 1999 photo.

MA

NEW YORK-Former US president Bill Clinton was in hospital early Saturday awaiting heart bypass surgery after seeking medical help for chest pains and shortness of breath.

well," Sen. Hillary Clinton said outside New York Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia late Friday. "He will be having surgery early in the week. There will be no further information between now and then."

Television networks said Clinwould need quadruple bypass surgery but this was not confirmed by his family or aides.

"I just had a feeling a couple of days ago I had to have it checked, when I finally got some tightness in my chest," Clinton told cable news channel CNN late Friday to describe what happened. "We did this angiogram and found out I had blockage that was too significant to open and put a stent in. We had to do the whole surgery.

"I feel really blessed, you know, because a lot of people who have a heart attack never get any advance warning," Clinton said.

"Let me just say this, Republicans aren't the only people who want four more years here," Clinton joked, admitting to feeling "a little scared, but not much."

Clinton checked into a hospi-

"My husband is doing very tal in Westchester County in the New York suburbs late Thursday and returned for additional tests Friday.

The doctors "advised him to have bypass surgery and do it as soon as he could," Hillary Clinton

The ex-president was admitted ton, who became 58 in August, to New York Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia, which has one of the top cardiology units in the United States.

Clinton immediately received messages of goodwill from President George W. Bush and other world leaders.

Secret Service agents were posted outside the Columbia-Presbyterian hospital. Television camera operators and dozens of well-wishers gathered outside.

Clinton has spent recent months promoting his best-selling autobiography "My Life." He keeps up a punishing schedule of international speaking engagements while wife Hillary pursues her political career as a US senator representing New York state.

The former president was at a book-signing in New Orleans, Louisiana, on Wednesday. AFP

Singapore seeks more foreigners in face of its low birth rate

SINGAPORE—Singapore is encouraging more foreigners to take up citizenship to boost its population, complementing incentives aimed at convincing couples to have more children, reports said Saturday.

Home Affairs Minister Wong Kan Seng, the city-state's "population czar," said boosting the number of citizens through immigration was important because "babies take many years to grow up."

Wong was quoted in the Straits Three as saying foreigners wanting to become permanent residents or citizens would soon be assessed not just based on their academic qualifications but also on their talent, skills and experience.

The potential contributions of the applicant's family members and how they could fit into the country's requirements would also be taken into consideration.

Currently, academic qualifications play a central role in deciding to admit applicants for permapent residency and citizenship.

Wong said the government would also target foreign students on scholarships here who could be convinced to settle in Singapore with their families.

"We are exploring all these

Singapore's population comprises three million Singaporean citizens, 350,000 permanent residents and 800,000 foreigners on long-term permits.

Singapore's low birth rate has become an urgent concern after the fertility rate hit an alltime low of 1.26 children per woman in 2003.

The low birth rate will also mean a higher proportion of elderly citizens in the long term, resulting in heavy social welfare costs.

About 6,500 foreigners chose to become Singaporean citizens last year, down from highs of 10,000 during the 1990s when the economy was booming.

Last month, the government unveiled a \$\$300 million (US\$176 million) additional annual package to encourage couples to have more children and reverse the alarming fall in the birth rate.

The package includes tax relief, an extra month of materniry leave on top of the current two months, and lower levies for the right to employ a foreign maid to look after kids.

It comes on top of existing Incentives worth S\$500 mil-

WORLDBRIEFS

India-Pakistan talks

NEW DELHI-Foreign secretaries from rival neighbors India and Pakistan began a new round of peace talks Saturday to discuss a series of festering issues, including their decades-old dispute over the Himalayan region of Kashmir, India's Foreign Secretary Shyam Saran and his Pakistani counterpart RIaz Khokhar were expected to review progress made in previous talks, and to prepare for meetings that begin Sunday between both countries' foreign ministers. The talks will focus on cross-border terrorism and trade as well as Kashmir, an Indian official said Friday on condition of anonymity.

Sanctions vs Sudan eyed

VALKENBURG, Netherlands---European Union foreign ministers were expected to back Washington's get-tough approach on Darfur at a meeting Saturday. dangling the threat of UN sanctions over Sudan's government it it does not move to end the lighting in the region. The EU ministers were to discuss a United 1 Nations report that has called on Sudan's government to accept a much larger international monitoring force in Darfur. Arab militias called Janiaweed are blamed for violence that has killed some 30,000 people and forced over 1.2 million to flee their homes in Darfur, creating what the United Nations has called the world's worst humanitarian crisis. The Sudanese government denies accusations it backs the Janjaweed to put down black African rebal groups that have been fighting government forces since 2003. AP

Israel launches missile strike

GAZA CITY-Israel pressed its threatened onslaught against Harnas Saturday, launching an early morning air strike in the Gaza Strip and a major search operation in the northern West Bank following this week's deadly double suicide bombing by the Palestinian militant group. Israeli helicopters swooped down on the Maghazi refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip overnight and launched a rocket at a home suspected of being used by Harnas to manufacture weapons and explosive devices. Palestinian security sources said the building, which was targeted in a similar raid two months ago, was severely damaged, although there were no immediate reports of casualties. AFP

Jacko admits payoffs

LOS ANGELES - Michael Jackson admitted to making settlements to avoid court in the past in a statement issued Friday, hours before US media reportad new allegations that the pop star paid \$2 million (euros) to a boy who accused him of inappropriate touching, in the statement Jackson said he was responding to "untruths and sensationalism" but did not mention the report by name. "Years ago, I settied with certain individuels because I was concarned about my family and the media scrutiny that would have ensued if I fought the matter in court," the statement said. Dateline NBC reported Friday that Jackson pald more than \$2 million to the son of one of his employees at his Neverland Ranch in Santa Barbara, California, after the boy accused him of fondling him through his ciothes.

Anwar prepares for surgery

KUALA LUMPUR-In high spirits, Malaysia's former deputy leader Anwar Ibrahim finalized plans Saturday to fly to Germany for back surgery to repair damage suffered partly from a police beating in custody six years ago. Three days after a court dramatically overturned a sodomy conviction and freed him from prison, Anwar told a news conference that he would be leaving by Saturday night for a specialized clinic in Munich to have the minimally invasive surgery. Anwar, claiming to be in constant pain, has been asking for four years to have surgery at the Aioha Klinik. He has increasingly been confined to a wheelchair and neck brace

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Bush opens double-digit lead over rival Kerry



NEW YORK-US President George W. Bush has opened a double-digit lead over Democratic challenger John Kerry in the Nov. 2 election, according to a poll out Friday.

If the election were held today, 52 percent of likely voters would vote for Bush, 41 percent for Kerry and three

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percent for independent Ralph Nader, said the Time magazine survey.

The poll was taken Aug. 31 through Sept. 2, during the Republican convention in New York, but before Bush gave his nomination acceptance speech

Thursday night. Bush pulled ahead on a key issue that

had been a Kerry strong point: the economy. Porty-seven percent of respondents trusted Bush to run the economy, while 45 percent trusted Kerry.

The economy and the war on terror vied for first place among respondents' concerns, with 25 and 24 percent, respectively. When it came to conducting the war

on terror, 57 percent chose Bush, 36 percent Kerry.

And as commander-in-chief of the US military, 53 percent trusted Bush, 41

percent trusted Kerry. The poll queried 1,316 adults. The margin for error was plus or minus three percentage points.



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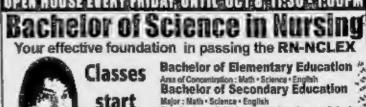
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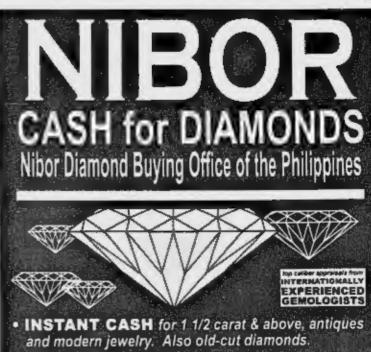
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Russia mourns 322 dead in siege

From page Al

"worst possible scenario."

Corpses were still being carried out of the gymnasium where the hostages were held by guerrillas demanding independence for Chechnya.

Dozens of unexploded bombs left by the militants inside the school building were further hampering efforts to bring out the remaining bodies.

"All of Russia suffers for you and prays together with the people of the republic," said Putin during his surprise visit to Beslan, in the Caucasian republic of North Ossetia.

He said he had ordered the region's borders closed while officials searched for everyone connected with the attack.

Putin arrived with smoke still rising from the shattered school, only hours after the last scattered shooting died away.

He visited some of the 700 people wounded in Friday's chaotic and confused storming of the school by crack troops, when gun battles raged around the building and in the nearby vicinity well into the night.

There were wrenching scenes as relatives with no news of their loved ones gathered outside the

"Right now at least I have a chance to identify them. I need to put something in the coffin," said Albert Kundukhov, 30, as he waited outside the school building to see his mother, wife, and daughter for the final time.

One woman was approaching every passer-by, clutching a photograph of a girl. "Please can you help, I am looking for this girl. We can't find her in any of the hospitals. Have you seen her, she is my niece? Her name is Medina ..."

Questions remained about the circumstances of the assault, which recalled the botched storming in 2002 of a Moscow theatre where 129 hostages held by Chechen rebels were killed when special forces used a powerful narcotic gas.

Putin insisted the special forces had not planned the action to free the school hostages. "We examined all possible courses of action at Beslan, but use of force was not planned," Putin told local officials.

A security service official said the guerrillas had planned the attack three days in advance, stashing the building with armaments

during renovation work before it opened for the first day of school.

SAME OF CHARGE PARTIES AND CONTRACTORS

Triggered suddenly by a series of explosions, the assault quickly developed into a bloodbath amid scenes of screaming, bloodied children wailing in the arms of running soldiers as artillery and automatic weapons fire burst around them.

"I was sitting there with my face in my knees and my hands over my head. Then I turned my head and I saw our guys there, shooting. Three of them covered us while the fourth led us outside," one survivor, 15-year-old Yana, said.

The regional interior ministry said that most of the victims died when the school's roof caved in following massive explosions, which survivors said were caused by bombs hung from the ceiling falling down.

Inside the gym, reports spoke of rescuers finding scenes of horror, with severed limbs and hostages suffering from horrendous injuries.

The hostages had been kept since Wednesday with no food or water, packed into the gym in stifling hear. Many spoke of drinking their own urine in a desperate bid to quench their thirst.

Russian authorities said the bloody end to the standoff came after explosions apparently set off by the militants—possibly by accident—as emergency workers were entering the school to collect the bodies of slain hostages.

As hostages took their chance to flee, the militants opened fire and security them, forces-along with town residents who had brought their own weapons—opened covering fire to help the hostages escape. Commandos stormed into the building and secured it, then chased fleeing militants in the town, with shooting lasting for 10 hours.

The Federal Security Service chief in North Ossetia, Valery Andrevey, said 32 hostage-takers were killed.

Channel One and NTV television reported that three of them had been captured. Over 10 special forces troops lost their lives in the assault, the crisis unit said.

An explosives expert told NTV television that the hostage takers, themselves strapped with explosives, had hung bombs from basketball hoops in the gym and set fering," while Queen Elizabeth other explosive devices in the AFP and AP



RELATIVES examine a list of released hostages who were delivered to the hospital after Russian troops stormed a school seized by heavily armed Chechen militants in the town of Beslan in North Ossetia, Russia.

World horrified at bloody crisis

VALKENBURG, The Netherlands-World leaders expressed horror Friday at the bloody end to the Russian hostage crisis, calling is a tragedy which resulted from a "nauseating" and "barbaric" terrorist attack.

US President George W. Bush, speaking just days before the third anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks on the US, said the large-scale hostage taking in Russia was "another grim reminder" of terrorist tactics and moumed the loss of life in a raid to end the standoff.

"We stand with the people of Russia, we send them our thoughts and prayers in this terrible situation," he said.

European Union (EU) foreign ministers, whose back-to-work meeting after the summer holidays was overshadowed by the Russian drama, called it a "deep human tragedy" but conceded that Moscow seemingly had no choice in the outcome.

The comments came after the fast-moving and unexpected end to the hostage crisis in the North Ossetia town of Beslan, where special Russian forces had been besieging militants holding more than 1,000 people hostage in a

British Prime Minister Tony Blair expressed Trevulsion at the inhumanity of terrorists prepared voiced her "profound shock at the events," asking Russian President

"deepest sympathy to the bereaved and injured.

German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder said "terrorism must be fought wherever it presents itself."

Terrorists with no conscience tried to achieve political objectives by killing people," he said. UN Secretary General Kofi An-

nan condemned all terrorist acts. "He was horrified to learn that a large number of children and others have lost their lives or were injured during the last few hours," his spokesperson said.

The Vatican lamented the "astonishing ferocity" with which the hostage crisis ended. Messages of condolences also came in from Greece, Israel, Egypt and Portugal among other countries.

Governments across the Asia-Pacific region joined in a chorus condemnation Saturday, squarely blaming the militants who took hundreds of school children in Russia hostage for the deaths of 250 people.

From Australia to India, leaders expressed solidarity with Putin in his handling of the crisis that ended in the early hours of Saturday after a nearly three-day standoff,

Australian Prime Minister John Howard condemned the hostage takers as depraved, obscene and cruel. He said he had sent a mesto put children through such suf- sage to Putin expressing his shock and dismay at the siege in the North Ossetia town of Beslan.

Targeting children, he said, "rep-

Vladimir, Putin to convey her resents the ultimate depravity of terrorist activity. No political grievance can justify such behavior."

China said it too supported Russia's handling of the crisis.

"China supports the Russian government's efforts in fighting against terrorism and is willing to join hands with the international community to fight resolutely against terrorism and to maintain justice and peace," foreign ministry spokesperson Kong Quan said in a statement.

China is battling separatists in its Muslim-populated Xinjiang region and is keen to gain international support for its role in the fight against those it considers terrorists.

Another country battling Muslim separatists, Thailand, expressed revulsion over the hostage-taking and regretted that a peaceful resolution could not have been found.

We are shocked and saddened by the loss of lives in the incident and we condemn the hostage taking of innocent civilians that led to this crisis," Thai foreign minspokesperson Sihasak Phuangketkeow said.

Thailand is grappling with its own separatist movement in its Muslim majority deep south.

Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh sent a letter to Putin lauding the Russian security forces for their 'measured action' in ending the crisis but also regretted the heavy loss of life. AFP

'RP shares Russia's pain and anguish'

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo said yesterday the Philippines shared Russia's "pain and anguish" over the bloody end to a school hostage drama that left more than 300 people dead in North Ossetia.

"The Filipino people have experienced the pain and anguish of having school children and teachers held hostage in Basilan," Arroyo spokesperson Ignacio Bunye said, citing the case of Abu Sayyaf militants who raided a Catholic school on the southern Philippine island four years

"We express our deepest sympathy to the families of the victims of the hostage crisis in Russia," Bunye said in a written statement.

"We hope and pray that the crisis will be solved in the soonest possible time with the least cost to human lives and suffering."

He told RMN radio that the incident showed terrorism recognized no boundaries, and that it was important for the Philips ready to respond to such threats.

Controversial bills stir new debates on policy

From page Al

dergone an abortion.

Under HB 16 and SB 2325, hospitals and medical professionals cannot refuse treatment to a woman who has developed post-abortion complications, the two lawmakers said.

They were quick to add that their pitch for post-abortion care came with the reiteration of the state's duty to prevent abortions through effective RH programs.

Shades of gray

"There should be no conflict between my bill and the policy against abortion. Under HB 16, abortion is not among the recommended, legal and safe methods of family planning," Lagman said.

He said the bill was pushing for "a humane policy that would enable us to assist women in distress, who, out of desperation, had resorted to abortion even if it is illegal."

He added: "We give three square meals a day to convicted prisoners but it does not mean we're encouraging the commission of crimes. We treated Commander Robot or death row inmates when they were sick. We don't let a captured rebel die of hemorrhage or infection; we bring him to a government hospital to be treated, so that the necessary penalty can be imposed on him.

"In this world, there are no compartments of black and white, only shades of gray."

Lagman, whose bill had caused a stir for proposing incentives for couples who would limit the number of their children to two, said the provision on post-abortion care was wellreceived by women's groups, lawyers and health workers.

Non-judgmental

."But they thought my bill was not enough. They asked: Why not legalize abonion?' I don't want to cross that [line] at the moment, My bill is controversial enough; I need

more supporters than opponents," he said.

Biazon's bill states that the government, while not changing the present laws on abortion, must ensure that women seeking care for post-abortion .complications "shall be treated and counseled in a humane, non-judgmental and compassionate manner."

Whether the abortion is self-induced or accidental should be immaterial." Biazon said. "When a bleeding woman shows up at the hospital, do we really need to investigate first whether she had gone to an abortionist or simply fell down

"And even granting that she confesses that the abortion is [induced], would it be humane for us to deny her assistance? That would be tantamount to giving her a death sen-

One must take note that the Revised Penal Code merely sets jail terms for illegal abortion, Biazon

He said he was inclined to include a provision in the bill that would penalize medical staff or institutions refusing post-abortion treatment to a woman.

Biazon admitted that his bill had

preted it as an endorsement of abor-

"I'm definitely against [abortion] because it's a crime and a sin. What I'm talking about here is the right of the woman to be treated [medically]," he said.

Life or death

Lagman conceded that should his bill become law and post-abortion care became more accessible as a matter of right, a woman availing herself of the service might be ex-

posing herself as a lawbreaker. This legislation may reduce the

earned him detractors who inter- social stigma of a woman showing up at a hospital desperate for postabortion treatment, but it will not free her from criminal liability.

"That is really the situation: She has a choice whether to die of complications from abortion, or. live yet face prosecution," Lagman said.

But he pointed out: "Considering that prosecution of abortion cases is not that stringent in this country, the woman might as well go [for medical treatment). Buti nong hompin natin ang batas kaysa harapin ang libingan (We have better chances facing the law than the grave)."

Church: All women are entitled to treatment

By Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

LINGAYEN. Pangasinan-The Catholic Church frowns on abortion but it recognizes the right of post-abortion women to appropriate medical care.

"All are entitled to postabortion care" although a distinction must be made between women who had an abortion against their will, and were thus victims, and those who chose it, said Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Oscar Cruz.

"It's hard to deny that abortion has a traumatic effect, especially on the woman," added Cruz, a former president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines.

"Even if it is against her will or in accordance with her will, there is always a remnant of fear, of repentance and of guilt," he said. "It is not a pleasant experience, whether it is a spontaneous abortion or whether the woman is forced to abort her own child."

Cruz believes that with i post-abortion care, many women will be made more conscious "that abortion is wrong, no matter how you look at it."

And a post-abortion care program may be a vehicle for responsible parenthood: "The woman will know that abortion { is wrong and will not resort to it, anymore, and will be more responsible whenever she gets ! pregnant."

Women want good program put in place

By Stella O. Gonzales

THE WOMEN and groups interviewed for this report gave varying recommendations on how illegal abortion-and its resultant life-threatening complications-could be avoided, if not stopped.

But all agreed on one urgent action: to put in place a health program for women who develop post-abortion complications.

If women are rurned away from hospitals or are humiliated by healthcare workers because they are suspected of having had an abortion, where and who will they turn to?

"They'll go to the traditional hilot, to the quack doctors who will further jeopardize their lives," said Dr. Honorata Catibog of the Department of Health Family Health Division.

There is a DOH administrative order institutionalizing a program on the prevention and management of abortions and its complications (PMAC). But can this be fully implemented under a govemment that is not too keen on the idea of reproductive health?

The nongovernment organization called EngenderHealth was able to start in 2000 a PMAC program in 17 pilot hospitals. But with no new funding from abroad, it had to stop the prograin this year. Dr. Junice Melgar, executive di-

rector of Likhaan, a women's NGO, said they had realized that the issue of abortion was "an uphill dimb" and would be "content with even just the enforcement of PMAC."

The Philippine reproductive health care program must be strengthened if there is to be a significant drop in the number of women undergoing abortions, according to Dr. Corazon Raymundo, who has done studies on abortion in the country.

Raymundo's study in 2001 showed that the main reason for abortion was unwanted pregnancy.

"So we must prevent unwanted pregnancies if we want to prevent abortions," she said, adding that health officials and policymakers should make it "unnecessary" for women to have an abortion by offering them a serious family planning program.

Melgar observed that many women's groups were very strong on political and economic issues but were not as focused on personal issues affecting women, like contraception.

Reproductive health is not in their agenda," she said. Melgar said the large mem-

bership of women's groups should be tapped so abortions, or at least a number, could be prevented through family plan-

But she warned against the common belief that having a strong family planning program would completely stop abortions. She said that there were still failures in family planning methods and that women had other reasons for resorting to abortion apart from not wanting yet another child.

Raymundo wants abortion decriminalized.

Because abortion is illegal in the country and a study of the University of the Philippines' Population Institute has estimated the number of women who commit the "crime" at least 400,000 a year, one would expect the prisons

to be bursting at the seams.

But have you heard of a woman thrown in jail because she had an abortion? If you arrest all these women, our penitentiaries would be full, and so many young children would lose their mothers," Raymundo said.

"Why does society look the other way even when it knows of someone who had an abortion? A law can only be effective if it goes with the train of thought and norms of society," she pointed out.

Indeed, when a law is not implemented, what is it there for? Melgag on the other hand, wants abortion legalized, even on a limited scale.

She recalled a bill filed in 1999 by Camarines Sur Rep. Roy Padilla seeking to legalize abortion in special cases, such as when a woman had been raped or was in danger of losing her life.

We would have been content if they passed even just the portion 'promoting the woman's health and saving her life.' But even that was attacked as promoting a culture of death and being anti-life," Melear said.

Text messages to boost 'Bayanihan Fund' urged

Class of '62 to donate their jeweiry to the government to help address the national fiscal crisis, class president Hector Villanueva wants the country's estimated 10 million cellular phone owners to share their text messages.

Villanueva said he would propose to both Smart and Globe, the countries' two biggest telecommunication companies, to invite subscribers to donate at least five text messages a day for

"We send jokes and silly text messages all the time. Can we not share a portion with our government which needs our help?" he said.

Villanueva, who is also the mayor of Bais City in Negros Oriental, said he would meet with the presidents of Smart and Globe when he goes to Manila next week to discuss his proposal.

"This will be a big amount because we are talking of millions of cell phone subscribers," he

According to Villanueva's estimate, if just half of all the cell phone owners pledged five text messages a day, or P5, the gov-

Ambahan Sr. dies at 68

MAMERTO "Mert" Anam Ambahan Sr.

died last Sept. 2. He

His remains lie at the Bollozos Funeral Homes, Butuan

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at the Butuan City Cathe-

dral at 2 p.m. tomorrow. Interment will

immediately follow at the Butuan City Chinese Cemetery.

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was 68.

City.

ernment could collect P4.5 billion in six months.

He sent text messages to friends about his proposal, which he named "Text 'N Save for Love of Country," and the re-sponse was good. In Bais City alone, some 40 people pledged to join the campaign.

In spite of the attention his fund-raising ideas have been getting, Villanueva said he preferred to stay on the sidelines. The jewelry donation, which his class started last week, was actually a project of the Silliman

The university has promised to support activities of its alumni who will solicit pledges to help the government weather the fiscal crisis and find a solution to the P5.3 trillion national debt.

Leonor Magtolis Briones, former chair of the Freedom from Debt Coalition and chair of the board of trustees of Sillman

Work on North Rail project to start soon

that the Chinese government had released the \$400 million for the first phase and that the Chinese Eximbank had approved in principle the funding of both the second phase and its feasibility study.

"Since the \$400 million has been released, construction can now begin," she said.

When told that construction would begin next month, the President frowned and said: "I don't understand why there has to be some delay. Why can't we start now? Ideally, if I would have my way, we should have held our pulong bayan there."

She asked for Cortez, who was then having coffee somewhere on the LRT 2 platform, and told him: "Can you now start the North Rail because China has released the \$400 mil-

Cortez said the Chinese group would arrive sometime this month but that the relocation of squatters along the North Rail route was the one factor causing the delay.

Vice President De Castro, the newly appointed housing czar, butted in at this point and said the National Housing Authority had removed the squatters in the North Rail area in Caloocan City.

"We cleared Caloocan. All we have to do is

sive rail project at P1 billion per kilometer.

I read something in the newspapers, maybe it came from the losing bidder," she said. "Anyway, I read that the North Rail was allegedly overpriced, so let's have it answered by Romy Neri."

National Economic and Development Authority chair Romulo Neri proceeded to explain.

He said the North Rail project was initially pegged at P1.06 billion for the first 40 km under a Spanish Japanese conglomerate but that this did not push through because the price was high and the Japanese financiers wanted half the number of squatters in the area removed before they would even come in.

"So nothing happened. Then the Chinese proposal came, [wherein] for only P500 million we can build a 33-km line to Maiolos," he

said. But he did not say how much the rest of the route would cost.

B is for budget

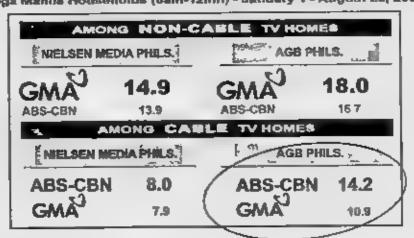
Before the pulong bayan ended, Ms Arroyo was asked by program host Giselle Sanchez what the acronym "Beat the ods" meant.

She said it stood for the 10 priority programs that she wanted to implement during her six-year term and that she mentioned during her inaugural speech last June 30: "B-Balanced budget, E-Education for all, A-Automated elections, T-Transport infrastructure, T- Terminate NPA and MILF hostilities, H - Heal the wounds of Edsa 1, 2 and 3, E-Electricity for all, O-Opportunities for livelihood and jobs, D-Decongestion of Metro Manila, and S-Subic and Clark alliance."





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Maraming Salamat Po GMA





Workers (OFWs) gathered at the Sunday, August 29th, Despite pouring rain, all of the OFWs in the stadium united for one of the largest overseas Filipino events in recent history - a showbiz--packed launch for 1528 SMART, the first international pre-paid service offering from PLDT's SMART Communications

"This service is really important, as I can keep in touch -with my loved ones better, have access to features that make me feet like I'm back home, and more importantly, help me remit Emuch-needed monies back to my family safer and faster than ever before," said Arrita dela Cruz, a domestic helper who has worked in Hong Kong's Mid-Levels for more than 11 years.

"Being an OFW is a rough Ife. I know that times are tough for us back home, but abroad, even though we earn bigger salares, we give up so much .more - our communities, friendships, and sometimes because of the work we do, our dignity in a small way 1528 SMART helps me be proud to be Filipino. And I'm so glad to be able to contribute to a Filipino company instead of a foreign one," added Arrita

A partnership of PLOT Global the, SMART Communications,

branded wireless service to be famed Hong Kong Stadium last offered in the international market.

Developed by SMART, spearheaded by PLDT Global and offered on the backbone of Hong Kong mobile carrier CSL Limited, 1528 SMART enables OFWs to become actual SMART subscribers. OFWs enjoy preferential calling and SMS-text rates to the Philippines, access a host of electronic top-ups and already being content extensively used and in demand with SMART subscribers in the Philippines | and avail of innovations specifically developed for the OFW market, such as the revolutionary SMART PADALA.

*1528 Smart is easy to use! I bought my 1528 SMART starter pack at Worldwide Plaza for Hong Kong \$100 immediately replaced my Hong Kong pre-paid service with it. 1 was logged onto the CSL network immediately - it looked like, and made me feel like I was holding home right in my hand," said Geronimo Alcazaren.

1528 SMART is the first of an array of mobile products and services from the PLDT Group that will be aggressively offered to the more than 8 million OFWs around the world. But while the OFW market represents smart

Pangilinan, "I know how it is to try and seek a better fortune abroad. You tell yourself that it's only going to be for 2-3 years. More often than not, it becomes much longer. It thus gives me extreme pride to note that 1528 SMART brings something far more intangible - the sense of being connected to home - right to the palm and the heart of the any OCW. Let me tell you from experience, when you're abroad, no matter how long or far away from the Philippines, there's nothing better than being connected with home."

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Hong Kong based Of Ws flouked to the 1528 SMART · Jaunch despite the rain

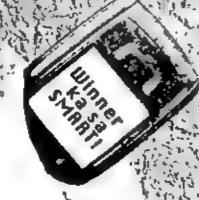


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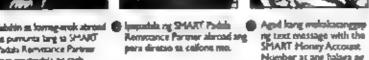


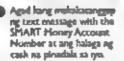




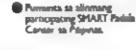


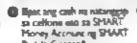
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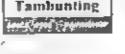






















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Arroyo's folly

T wasn't only her family that went on vacation last week; President Macapagal-Arroyo's sense of proportion also went on holiday. Her decision to bring her extended family-her second son, her two daughters-in law, and her grandchildren and their nannieson her state visit to China would have been eyebrowraising in the best of times. But in the middle of a fiscal

crisis? The decision was a terrible **EDITORIALS** mistake.

We have no doubt that the non-offi-

cial members of the President's delegation to China paid their own way. Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye defended Ms Arroyo's decision precisely on that ground. But the issue is not whether government money was used. It is whether Ms Arroyo has set the right example.

The issue is whether, as the leader of a country facing fiscal difficulties, the President believes the spirit of selfsacrifice she has invoked—and which she said the country needs-applies to her and her family as well.

From her, the answer, apparently, is No.

The decision cast a shadow over the China visit, the President's second since 2001. "Right now we have forgotten the benefits of the agreements that the President would bring back from her trip," Bunye said plaintively

Now whose fault is that? By allowing almost her entire family to tag along, the President herself invited the inevitable criticism. But in a bizarre turn, Bunye all but blamed the media for writing about the "Arroyo family

"Our appeal is don't make the issue any bigger and instead focus on the positive results of the President's visit," he said. To be sure, there are any number of positive results, beginning with the state visit itself, a sign of both better bilateral relations and China's increasingly important role on the global stage. But if the positive is overshadowed by the negative, Bunye's boss is the one to

Thus, simply on the level of the politics of state visits, the President's decision was a mistake. It distracted public attention, it undercut the administration's own economic and foreign-policy objectives, it cluttered the mes-

On the level of crisis politics, however, the decision was an even bigger, worse mistake. It needlessly undermined the President's moral authority to call for greater self-sacrifice. Beyond the public clamor for the reduction or the outright abolition of the pork barrel, beyond the flurry of citizens' donations to the so-called Bayanihan Fund, beyond the President's own call for austerity in government, the most important anti-crisis measure

These require the President's savvy use of her political capital, which includes popular support, or at least the lack of organized public resistance. But the "Arroyo family vacation" in China makes public support for unpopular reforms even more difficult.

Arroyo's rhetoric

N HER State of the Nation Address last July, President Macapagal-Arroyo mustered the clichés of self-sacrifice one more time, as she called on all Filipinos to bear the "tough decisions" that needed to be

"It must be tougher on those who've had it easy than on those who've had it tough already." And again: "We must bear the pain and share the pain to enjoy the gain together." And yet again: "Those with more must sacrifice more; those with less are already living lives of selfsacrifice."

Now that a fiscal crisis is upon us, one would think that the President's appeal to self-sacrifice has become even more necessary (although we hope she does better than call the roll of tired and tiresome phrases another time). But what the President did does not square with what the President said.

Austerity begins at home.



建设计算是的支持的工程和联络的产生发现的工程的发展的基本

Knocking at the portals of the bar

TODAY being the first Sunday of September, it will mark the beginning of the annual bar examinations to be held on the four weekends of this month. According to the Bar Confidant of the Supreme Court, 5,422 applicants have registered to take the tests, 3,002 being first timers and the rest repeaters. The fee of the former is P2,250 and the latter pay an additional P250 per failure. All of them will be subjected to the same examinations.

The subjects of the examinations are Political Law and International Law in the morning and Labor Law in the afternoon for the first Sunday, Civil Law and Taxation for the second Sunday, Commercial Law and Criminal Law for the third Sunday, and Remedial Law and Legal Ethics and Practical Exercises for the last Sunday.

The examinations will be a gauge not only of the candidates' abilities but also of the examiners' competence to test them. One could say that at the time of the examinations, the average students, and more so the exceptional ones, know more law than the examiners. But this has got to be proved by the candidates to the satisfaction of the examiners.

The examiners are usually and not necessarily especially conversant with the subject assigned to them. I have suggested that the exammers be experts or at least knowledgeable of their respective assignments, but this has been rejected on the ground that they will tend to be upduly strict with the examinees.

This is how professors are with their students in the better law schools, but the Supreme Court seems to prefer the examiners to be less informed than the examinees. This has resulted at times to the prejudice of the ex-

Decades ago, an examiner simply copied his questions from a quizzer without even chang-

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Gruz

worse, they called for the application of old decisions, not the current doctrines the students had studied. That examiner could not even compose his own original questions, and it is doubtful if he knew the new answers to the old questions he plagrantzed.

Only a few years ago, the examiner asked for the distinctions between recognition de jure and de facto of states, instead of governments. In that same examination, the examiner spoke of the budget and the general appropriations bill as if they were synonymous when professors in Political Law make it a point to distinguish between the two terms.

In my own examination in 1951, we were asked what kind of nuisance a bagoong factory was, and I correctly wrote it was per accidens. When I got my examination notebook five years later. I found that answer with a big cross. The examiner held the nuisance as per se and therefore could be abated summarily, that is, without judicial permission. I was deducted for being right.

And, yes, when I used the word "trifling," that superficial fellow encircled it as wrong, thus confessing that he was also deficient in vocabulary. That examiner will be nameless here for pity's sake, but God rest his soul in the purgatory of the ignorant.

Problems like these may be due to the practice of confining the identity of the examiners ing the names and the dates in the problems; only to the chair of the bar examining commit-

tee and the Chief Justice, who are thus the only persons who can judge their competence. The rest of the justices learn their names only after the examinations, when the results are submitted to the banc for its approval and it is too late. to make amends.

The reason for such secrecy is to prevent undue identification of the examiners and their possible subornation. Even without such precaution, however, irregularities have happened in the bar examinations, probably as a result of such disclosure or some other corrupt. cause. The test in Taxation was invalidated years ago and Commercial Law only last year. for leakage of the questions, and during the 1920s an honorable justice resigned when his mece falsified the bar results.

The end of the examinations is celebrated by the candidates like a thorn that has been pulled out ("nabunutan ng tinik") with parades, music, dancing in the streets, and delirious howling. Many of the examinees will release their tensions in beer. Most of them willgo out with their spouses or sweethearts and. enjoy those pleasures they dented themselves". during the past four weeks.

What will follow next are the months of prayer, worry, hope and despair as they await the release of the results of the tests. These will determine if they will become lawyers after. their years of study, or they should study some, more and take another examination, and per--. haps another, and still another, if they should, be so unlucky or plain undeserving to enter the"... fastidious portals of the bat.

I pray for the bar candidates, having also endured their anxieties. I hope all of them will! pass the examinations with the help of St. Judas Thaddens, the patron saint of the impossible, and become honorable members of the greatest profession in the world.

 $\mathbf{f}^{(1)}$

Parting

ACCORDING to hair stylists, there are three kinds of men when it comes to bair: some men have their hair parted; others have their hair unparted; and and the rest have their hair de-

The Gospel today (Lk. 14, 25-33) speaks about parting with one's possessions and loved ones as a requirement for discipleship. A disciple must be free from attachments so that he can be free for his/her commitment. "Freedom from" should lead to "freedom for."

It can happen that someone is single and detached, and be just that. There are people like that, sitting on the fence, and having the best of both worlds. Some people go through life all wrapped up in themselves. Such people may have their hands full, but their hearts are empty. In the end, he who lives only for himself doesn't have much really to live for What are you living for? Who are you living for?

Try lifting up a chair and putting it away from your body as far as possible. In this position, the chair gets heavier and heavier ev-

Now, try to bring the chair as close to your body as possible. Yes, literally embrace it, and it is not that heavy anymore. It is the same way with the crosses that we carry in our lives. For as long as we refuse, run away, complain, resent and fight our crosses in life, they will only become heavy. But if we embrace them, and embrace the Jesus on the cross, then we experience lightness, freedom and peace. If a trial comes your way, embrace it. If any relationship needs healing or mending in your life, face it. If there is any bad habit that needs to be given up, confront it. If there is any duty or responsibility you should do, do it. And if there is any commitment you should honor,



Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

fulfill it. And if there are people you should talk to, or confront or appreciate, go to them and open your heart. The more you run away, the more you deny, the more you postpone, the heavier the cross becomes.

A religious once confessed: "When I was young, chastity was my problem. When I reached mid-life, poverty was my problem. And now, in my sunset years, obedience is my problem." How true. Parting with the desire for worldly pleasures is not easy. Parting with the desire for worldly comforts and riches is not easy. Parting with the desire for control is not easy. It is a continuous struggle, it never really ends. And yet, we go on, carry our cross daily, and with God's grace, hope to come to His final embrace, someday.

The Gospel today also speaks about a fellow who began to build a house, laid its foundation, and was not able to finish it. In Loboc, Bohol, there is this massive unused and unfinished bridge that stops right in front of the town's historic church. How in the first place the bridge came to be built is a mystery to me. Did the builders actually believe they can tear down the old church? Was it a case of wrong projections, overconfidence, or even deceit? Questions. Questions. But the message is clear: We approach God with humility, depending not so much on ourselves, but on His grace.

The more I reflect on the unfinished Loboc

bridge, the more I realize the importance of our ability to part with our own plans, our own agenda and our own strength when it comes to doing God's work. Such a massive and showy bridge, but it is good for nothing. It got so filled with itself, and never delivered to others. Such is the picture of many of us, so-called "bridges," political and religious leaders who become fattened pigs and never quite give away our own pork. May we become more selfsacrificing and more self-effacing.

With the onset of September, Christmas is not far behind. Somehow, the thought of Christmas gives us hope for better and more peaceful days ahead. This early, if you are a true disciple, start thinking already what you can do as give-away for others instead of worrying on what to spend for yourself. A disciple must continue to listen with the Lord's ear, see with the Lord's eye, speak with the Lord's mouth, and love with the Lord's heart. The challenge remains: He must increase, I must decrease.

Sept. 8 is Mama Mary's birthday. Here was a disciple who knew what parting is early on, until she had to part with her son in a most excruclaring manner at Calvary. What made her strong is the "Big Picture." She knew in her heart that there was a reason and mission in everything. May we all continue to be strong so as to have the courage to leave behind all that is dearest if the road of discipleship so requires.

Think about this: The enemies of personal peace are regrets over yesterday's mustakes; anxiety over tomorrow's problems; and Ingratitude for today's blessings.

A moment with the Lord

Lard, help me to learn how to part, so that when from this world I depart, of you I will be a part. Amen.

Driving in America

The next day, we took in a show at the Jubilee Theater of Bally's, featuring a Filipino group, the

Society of Seven with singer Lani Misalucha.

They performed very well before a full house,

dishing out popular songs, classical numbers and

doing great impersonations. Watching our people

perform before a foreign crowd was quite an ex-

perience especially since you could feel the en-

thustasm of the audience. I understand the group

has a six-month contract, which is a first for Fil-

the trip to the Grand Canyon. A bus took us from

the hotel to North Las Vegas Airport where we

boarded a C-19 aircraft which flew us to the

North Rim of the canyon. We landed on an

airstrip at the Hualapai Indian reservation and

transferred to a helicopter flown by a lovely pilot

who had just left the Air Porce. She dove our

chopper straight down to the floor of the canyon,

a distance of more than a mile and deposited us

just beside the Colorado River where a waiting

boat took us a few miles upstream. The scenery

was stunning with rock formations—that took

millions of years in the making—on both sides of

the river. The carryon is home to 90 species of

mammals, 350 species of birds and more than

1,500 species of plants and vegetation. Without

doubt, the Grand Canyon, 270 river miles long, is

has more churches per capita than any compara-

By the way, Las Vegas may be Sin City but, it

one of the great natural wonders of the world.

Perhaps, the most exciting part of our visit was

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

ipino artists in Las Vegas.

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CHICAGO, Illmois—Over the years, our usual entry point to the United States has been either Los Angeles or San Francisco. However, Philippine Airlines early this year inaugurated a new route: Manila-Vancouver-Las Vegas and we decided to check it out. You leave Manila at 4 p.m. instead of 10 p.m. and arrive at your destination, the McCarran international Airport in Las Vegas, at around 5:30 in the afternoon of the same day after a brief stopover in Vancouver, Many of the passengers actually get off in Vancouver so there are not too many lining up for immigration formalities in Vegas, which is one advantage of this route aside from the early arrival. If you like to gamble a bit before proceeding to other points in the United States, this itinerary is tailor-made for you.

Las Vegas is Spanish for "the meadows" and is probably one of the top tourist destinations in America, with some 36 million visitors registered last year. It is also a favorite convention site for a lot of business corporations, foreign as well as local. In the early '90s, there was a move to refurbish its image as a child-friendly vacation destination for families. Lately, however, the trend has been to once again market the city as a place for adult entertainment. Small wonder, it is referred to by many as "Sin Cary."

There are three major activities to choose from in Las Vegas: gambling, taking in the different shows along the strip, and sightseeing. We did all three.

A few notes. When gambling, don't expect to win a fortune. Remember, it is a form of entertainment, and you will enjoy yourself more if you observe two basic rules: First, set a limit for the evening and leave when the limit is reached. Second, quit while ahead. Believe me, both rules are easier said than observed.

I decided to try my luck at the blackjack table and chose one with a Filipino-looking dealer it turned out he was a Pinoy from Cebu but, his name tag read "Sato." He was not inclined to offer any explanation. After a while, \$200 poorer, I called it a night.

the Guardian Angel Cathedral, a par-4 distance away from the Stardust Hotel. It accepts casino chips for the collection basket and is a good place to pray for lady luck before hitting the blackjack or baccarat tables.

A A SHOT BARBERS AS A SHOOT A SEA

e.g., y@ifceinfantadisAckifchitalitanitannete

Evanston, Illinois is home to Northwestern University where our daughter Carmela finished at the Medill School of Journalism. Part of her work these days is editing a soon-to-be-published book about a Landing Ship Tank (LST) which participated in the Leyte and Lingayen landings during the Pacific War. Her main job, however, is taking care of a livewire of a daughter, one and a half year old, Gisele.

Some 35 miles southwest of Chicago is Woodridge, a community of roughly 20,000 people exemplifying the best of small town USA. Our eldest son, Miguel, has been here for close to 10 years. It is a good place for raising his kids, Christine and Nicole. The school system is one of the best in the country and the pace of life is much slower than in the big city. Close by is the National Shrine of St. Therese of Lisieux. The shrine, run by the Carmelites, is home to the most beautiful collection of relics, personal effects and memorabilia of Therese outside of France.

Why do I drive more carefully here than in the Philippines? The obvious answer is that the traffic laws here are strictly enforced. But, I think there is more to it than enforcement of the law. You observe how others drive around. They are courteous; they don't try to unduly take advantage of others; they observe rules and regulations. At street corners without lights, they take turns crossing on a first-come first-go basis. This implies discipline, patience, safety consciousness and respect for others. When you drive in this environment, you tend to follow the natives. It is not so much the fear of being caught. It is also consideration for othbly sized city in the United States. Our favorite is ers who are considerate of you.

grants, the displaced and rural populations in

decision-making at all levels; where women

can exercise their human rights, and secure

their equal partnership with men, in families

and in society, for the benefit of all; and where

all kinds of families, and people outside fami-

She stood in the spotlight, dressed in a red

tribal outfit, and introduced herself as a young

woman from the Masai tribe in Kenya. Pledged

in marriage by her parents when she was just

5, she resisted undergoing genital mutilation when she reached puberty because "once I un-

derwent the procedure, it meant it was time

education and was dreaming of going on to

high school. "I knew that an unmarried girl

who had reached puberty and had still not un-

dergone female genital mutilation brought

shame to her parents, so I negotiated with my

father. I told him that I would agree to go

through the cutting and, in exchange, he

Kenya but abroad. "I had to negotiate with

the entire village because for them it was a

scandal to send an unmarried young woman

so far from home." But after she stood before

the village assembly and explained to them

why she wanted to pursue this dream, the

villagers not only gave their permission for

her to leave, they raised the money so she

could study in a small college in the United

she returned to her village, and now, she says,

"all the village women want their daughters to

With her degree in political science in hand,

Upon graduation, though, she dared

would allow me to go to high school."

dream a bigger dream; college, and

But she was fiercely determined to get an

for me to get married."

lies, have the same respect and protection."



THAI Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra seems to be at the height of his powers. With a general election slated for early 2005, the ebullient premier has been asking the Thai public to give him an overwhelming mandate of at least 400 Thai + Rak Thai (or TRT) members of parliament out of a 500strong House of Representatives.

Beconomic news has been generally positive. With GDP

growth of at least 6.5 percent, low unemployment and EYE ON manageable interest rates, That voters are feeling confident and comfortable, capital,

impression of an economy powering along.

The

ASIA Karim Raslan



Bangkok, hums with activity. Construction has restarted after nearly six years of inactivity, with new shopping mails emerging day by day in the heart of the city's Pathumwan shopping district. Its traffic-clogged streets, hypermarkets and condominium blocks reinforce the

The troubles in the predominantly Muslim South have barely dented the consciousness of Bangkok's commerciallyminded population. Tayorn Santem, an MP from the southern city of Songkhla and the chair of the Parliament's Justice and Human Rights Committee explains: "We don't expect the trouble to spread to the capital."

Still, the premier's bravura may have reached its limits. On Aug. 29, Bangkok voters delivered what is widely seen as a protest vote against Thaksin and the TRT in an election to choose a new governor.

A professional, self-made corporate man called Apirak Kosayodhin from the Democrat party—currently the largest opposition force pitted against Thaksin-won the election by a landslide.

Thaksin's TRT, fearing a rout, had retreated from the gubernatorial contest entirely. Instead, the TRT reportedly gave: its backing to Pavena Hongsakul, a charming if slightly baffling charity worker. She came in a distant second after Api- 🤫 rak, trailing by almost 300,000 votes to his 931,441.

"Thaksin knows he's becoming unpopular. He'r lost the aura of invincibility. The people are much more wary of him," says Democrat party insider Buranaj Smutharaks, who 🕆 🤈 argues that the premier's uncharacteristic besitancy reflects his awareness of new, less positive undercurrents.

"The Bangkok polls could be the apping point. You must remember that Bangkok dominates the country and he realizes that he can't afford a major loss of face, what with the national elections only six months away."

However, the Democrats, having suffered a debilitating series of high-level defections, are hardly in a position to capitalize on the growing sloppiness, arrogance and corruption allegations surrounding the premier's inner circle.

The present Democrat leader Banyat Bantadtan is a colorless man with limited popular appeal, unlike his younger thirtysomething deputy, the Oxbridge-educated Abhisit Vejjajiva. A Democrat victory in spite of these flaws is therefore.

"It could well be a harbinger for the future, undermining Thaksin's overall authority. As it is, he's already using a lot of money and influence to win support," Dr. Chalidaporn Songsamphan, a Thammasat University academic, had said, ahead of the poll.

A more thorough examination of the That political economy reveals that Thaksin is facing far less rosy prospects. The recent spike in oil prices is beginning to shake Thailand's oilimporting economy. According to The Nation, one of the Thailand's newspapers, the kingdom's oil bill in June alone was 132 percent more than the previous year's.

The higher prices are expected to shave one and a half percent off the GDP growth figures. There will be pressure on interest rates which look set to rise. This in turn will choke off consumer spending and deflate the emerging property bub-

Thaksin clearly recognizes the pressures on the economy and is trying to curb energy consumption with his customary heavy-handed manner. He has called on retail centers and petrol stations to close by 10 p.m. and midnight, respective-

This unilateral decision has drawn howls from the retail sector and consumers, many of whom can only shop late at night after the city's traffic jams have subsided. Corruption allegations and conflicts of interest are so frequent that they

rarely attract much public attention. At the same time, the premier's increasingly authoritarian ways are drawing criticism. A recently released report from the National Human Rights Commission attacked Thaksin for condoning a program of extra-judicial killings that left

2,500 dead last year The report states baldly "Thailand is regressing worrying. ly to a culture of authoritarianism, instead of progressing to a culture of human rights."

The premier is also beginning to irk his most ardent supporters. Populist politician and retired military man Chamlong Srimuang, a well-liked figure in the capital, has been open with his criticisms, singling out the TRT's drop in popularity and the premier's "changed" ways.

Given the volatile mood in Bangkok and the uncertain . economic climate, Thaksin will try to put the gubernatorial contest behind him-and fast. He wants to build up momentum for the national polls and cannot afford to stum-

Thaksin's great skill has been his ability to manage perception. As Don Pathan, a leading columnist at The Nation explains: "Thaksin remains a popular man amongst the masses. He has learnt the skill of providing the people with

As long as the That people feel they are electing a "winner," he will continue to soar. However, as Buranaj rightly observes, his credibility and legitimacy are becoming brit-

The failure to head off a Democrat victory by Aptrak could be the beginning of the end for the strongman of Thailand as

Comments to kraslan@tm.net.my

other challenges rise to the forefront.

Stories from London equal participation of women, and the full involvement of young people, the excluded, mi-

LONDON-It wasn't all speeches, polemics, research papers and debates at the just-concluded "Countdown 2015," a global roundtable sponsored by civil society, to mark the 10th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development held in Cairo.

There were also stories, told by "real" people, individuals who lived their stones and, in so doing, embodied issues that emerged in Cairo or have captured public attention only recently. Here are some of those stories, prefaced by a passage from the roundtable declaration that places their personal tales in the context of a larger reality.

"WE want a world where women and girls do not die in childbirth and pregnancy; where they have access to safe and legal abortion; and where women and men can decide freely and responsibly whether and when to have

Flavin's story was shared by Lilian Abracinskas, coordinator of an organization in Uruguay called "Mujer y Salud (Women and Health)."

Flavia lived in a poor farming community with her parents. She was just 16 and had a sixmonth-old son. When Flavia's period came late, she assumed the worst and feared that she was pregnant again, having "practically no knowledge" about reproduction and not knowing who or where to turn to for information and services. Flavia knew one thing, though: she could not add another mouth to feed to a family aiready living in abject poverty.

Deathly afraid of telling anyone about her sitnation, Flavia sought to terminate her pregnancy by herself, inserting a pesticide into her vagina. Soon the poison invaded her entire body. Her family rushed her to the nearest hospital. The doctors, unfamiliar with the poison used, tried in vain to find an antidote. When they did, it was too late. Flavia died of heart attack. An autopsy revealed she was not even pregnant.

"WE want a world where young people have a supportive environment in which to practice their human rights and engage as active citizens; and where all adolescents in and out of school have



access to comprehensive sexuality education." Her name is Nayara and she hails from Piaui, Bruzil, growing up in the favelas, the shanty towns of her city. When you met in Carro to de-

velop the Programme of Action, I was 6 years she told the roundtable participants. "Now I am 16 and 1 am here in London, participating in this important meeting." But what she wanted to do more than anything was to share the story of her friend Mikhayi.

Nayara met him in prison, where he landed after be was found to be high on drugs even if he did not have any drugs on him and was not a drug dealer. In that "truly horrible jail," Nayara was conducting workshops for the mostly young prisoners, including Mikhayl, imparting skills and working with them so they do not land in jail again.

But there was a fire in the jail, and there was no way to get Mikhay! and six other teenage inmates out in time. "Their lives were just not seen as worth saving," says Nayara.

fire happened May 8 of this year." Conditions in her favela are still very hard, Nayars confided. "I am one of only a few gurls my age who isn't pregnant, on drugs or living on the street...I was very lucky-I became involved in the movement. I woke up to the political situation

This is not ancient history," said Nayara. "The

and became an activist." It is not every day that a poor girl from the finelas can participate in an international meeting, Na-

yara remarked, "I'm honored that my personal stopeople like me and my friend Mikhayl."

"WE want a world where democracy means meaningful life, after PGM.

go to school." As for herself, she is working on a campaign to bring an end to female genital ry can now become part of your experience...and that I can make sure the Declaration speaks about mutilation. She is now a walking, talking and truly admirable source of inspiration who tells all young women that there is not just life, but

Dealing with state failure

NEXT to banks, telecommunication companies, and shopping malls, the most profitable business in the country today is the private security agency. No other country in the world, except maybe unstable Iraq, hires so many private security per-

"Blue guards," as we call them, are everywhere, providing countless homes and neighborhoods, firms and offices that singular service that is supposedly the state's primordial function-personal security. Their number is twice the size of the country's standing army and police. Their existence and the rising demand for their services, are the clearest proof of a failed

The privatization of security—alongside the privatization of basic education and basic health services, in a society sharply divided by extremes in wealth and poverty—poses the question. What for do we need a state? It is a question that has acquired even more saliency in the context of the government's worsening fiscal and debt situation.

Should the public, which theoretically owns the state, do something to save it from its present woes? Should citizens dig into their private savings, offer their jewelry, or give up their incomes so that the state would be able to pay its debts? Or, feeling so altenated from the state and having no care for what happens to it, should it allow it to sink in its present problems and prepare the way for its reconstitution?

The answer depends on our individual and collective experience with the state. I think a lot of Filipinos today would be inclined to think that the present state has either betrayed or abandoned them. They see it not as the agent of their collective will, the protector of their interests or guarantor of their children's future, but merely the milking cow of a privileged few.

The poor think the state has not done enough to secure their basic needs and redress the basic inequalities of our society. The middle class and the rich think that, because of corruption and incompetence, the state is not doing enough to proPUBLIC LIVES



tect their homes and property. No matter how one looks at it, this state of affairs is not conducive to the discharge of the obligations of citizenship.

The informed among us may see the urgency for a collective approach to the nation's financial problems. But, aware that these problems will not go away unless they are attacked at their roots, they are also wary of trusting the present officials of the state to do the right thing. This is tronic because we have just been through a national election.

It is not to say we are not already paying for the state's incompetence and corruption in the form of a devalued currency and scant public services. But no thoughtful citizen, not even one who loves the country deeply, would offer to pay the government's debts without a corresponding resolve on the state's part to address the main sources of the problem. The first is the government's failure to collect the right taxes from those who must pay taxes. The second is the mindless absorption by government of obligations incurred by unaccountable government financial institutions and public corporations. Almost 40 percent of the national government debt today, says the UP School of Economics report, consists of these assumed liabilities and loans of state corporations

When we consider how these liabilities were incurred, who profited from them, and which interest groups evaded payment of the appropriate taxes, it is not easy to summon love of country. When we see government officials speeding through the city traffic in their large tinted vehicles with blaring sirens and motorcycle escorts, or

when we learn that the President has brought almost her entire clan on her state visit to China, we start to wonder if state officials are there to serve or to be served.

State formation is an experimental process, says John Dewey. There is no sure-fire formula for creating a good state. "The only statement which can be made is a purely formal one: the state is the organization of the public effected through officials for the protection of the interests shared by its members. But what the public may be, what the officials are, how adequately they perform their function, these are things we have to go to history to discover." In theory, we know what a good state is, Dewey says. We know it by the degree to which the public is organized, and by the extent to which public officials "are so constituted as to perform their function of caring for pub-

When we speak of the deficiencies of governance, we refer to the flaws in our institutions and the shortcomings of public officials. But that is only half the picture. The other half is us, the public -- to the extent we can imagine ourselves as a collectivity capable of deliberate and conscious action. If we are organized, we should be able to invent and reinvent the state in accordance with the demands of our time, guided by

the tools of knowledge available to us. It may be inspiring to see the public move as one, bayanihan-style, to patch up those problems that are not being attended to by the state. But the value of an organized public does not lie in an auxiliary function like this, but in his capacity to reform the state and hold it accountable for its performance. A fragmented public will find itself saddled by an incompetent or irresponsible state. But a unified and intelligent public will know how to deal with a wayward state-it will tame its excesses and reorient its policies. It will not blindly come to us rescue in a moment of fear or sentimentality, or offer to bankroll its vices.

Comments to davidinquirer@yahoo.com

THEY SAID

Old glory

"It (Western Police District) has witnessed its glory reach the zenith but somehow this faded through the years. Today, we commit to you that we shall regain the old glory of our police forces."

-National Capital Region Police Office chief, Director Avelino Ra-

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TALK of the TOWN

Please send feedback to jauvniento@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

UP 11 plan: Can it keep RP afloat? (2)

EEDING the call of 11 economists from the University of the Philippines to act decisively to head off an economic collapse, President Macapagal-Arroyo acknowledged for the first time that the country was in the middle of a fiscal crisis.

To rein in the public sector deficit and debt, the President is pushing for the revenue and cost-saving measures proposed by the UP economists. These include cutting the pork barrel of legislators, imposing an additional tax of P2 per liter on petroleum products, pegging specific taxes on tobacco and alcohol to the inflation rate, reducing the internal revenue allotment to local governments, and downsizing the bureaucracy.

Other groups, however, claim that the measures the UP economists are offering are woefully inadequate because they ignore other factors that cause the fiscal crisis.

The Focus on the Global South, Freedom from Debt Coalition (FDC) and Fair Trade Alliance point out that the economists are silent on unilateral trade liberalization, smuggling, and debt relief.

The aggressive tariff reduction has cost the government since the mid-1990s more than P210 billion in customs revenue and led to the closure of many Philippine companies and the layoff of tens of thousands of workers.

Smuggling, too, has cost the government a lot-estimated at more than P175 billionyearly—while debt service will eat up 94 percent of government revenues next year.

Reversing the unilateral liberalization program, curbing smuggling and limiting debt payments are necessary to prevent economic collapse, according to the three groups.

The UP School of Economics report: Overdue, selective, not daring enough

By Walden Bello, Lidy Nacpil, and Ana Maria Nemenzo

hat is one to say about the report titled "The Deepening Crisis: the Real Score on Deficits and the Public Debr" by 11 prominent faculty members of the University of the Philippines School of Economics (UPSE)?

We have great respect for the authors of the report, some of whom are friends of long standing. Nonetheless, we must register our disappointment.

First of all, it is a report that is not so much timely as overdue.

It is now over nine months since Isidro Camacho declared that the country was in fiscal crisis along with the submission of his resignation as finance secretary,

It is over six months since the Standard Chartered Bank of London warned that the country faced an Argentina-type scenario.

This is a report that should have come out before the election campaign. Then it could probably have acted as a brake on the administration's spending its way to victory in the May 10 elections—a fact underlined by the sharp P7.8-billion rise in government expenditure in April compared with the figure for April 2003 Selective

But timing is not the only problem with this report. It is selective in its identifica-

Deficit

P-7.3 billion

P18.7 B

P82 9

P96.2 B

P148.9 B

P169 3 B

P218 7 9

P234.85 B

Year

1996

1997

1998

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

SOURCE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

tion of causes of the fiscal crisis, and because of this, the solution it proposes is woefully inadequate.

A 1900年16-18-2-1903年(1904年) 1904年(1904年) 1904年) 1904年(1904年) 1904年(1904年) 1904年(1904年) 1904年(1904年) 1904年)

In accounting for the fiscal crisis, the report identifies what it regards as the main causes on both the revenue side and the spending side. On the revenue side, a whole host of factors are identified. One key-if not the key-culprit is, however, missing: the unilateral trade liberalization program pursued by our neoliberal technocrats. Customs collections declined from 5.6 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) in the mid-1990s to 2.8 percent in 2002.

Indeed, shortly after he resigned, Camacho said: "The severe deterioration of fiscal performance from the mid-1990s could be annibuted to aggressive tariff reduction." Had the government not implemented its taniff reduction program, the former finance secretary estimated that it could have earned more than enough in customs revenue to cover its P210-billion budget deficit in 2002.

The report implicitly congratulates the Ramos administration for its balanced budgets or budget surpluses of the mid-1990s. What it fails to point out is that the unilateral liberalization program initiated by Ramos' technocrats made it more difficult for succeeding administrations to balance the budget

Why is such a major cause of significantly reduced revenue completely ignored by

BaC

P104.6 billion

P94 8 8

P76 B

P86 5 B

PARA

P96.2 B

P96.3 B

P106.1 B

Public Sector Carloit and Elik and Dail Collections

BIR

P260.8 billion

P314 7 B

P337,2 B

P341 3 B

P360.8B

P388.7 B

P394.5 B

P425.4 B

the UPSE report? Can it be that the reason bes in the ideological bias of some of the authors, who were uncritical supporters of the program of unilateral trade liberalization? Not daring enough

When it comes to accounting for the culprits on the expenditure side, the problem that hobbies the UP economists is not ideological bias but the absence of intellectual courage. Despite the spike in government spending during the election campaign, the report rightly claims that the national govemment spending has been reduced to a bare minemum, "with large thunks of the nabonal budget preempted by salaries, maintenance and operating expenses, and the internal revenue aflocation to local governments, leaving lattle room for infrastructure spending and other development needs."

Yet the report besitates to directly point to the chief culprit: the growing public debt. Only indirectly does it acknowledge this, as when it admits that, "Net of interest payments, national government spending (i.e., primary spending) has, in fact, declined significantly since 1999, and is now at its lowest level in a decade."

The fact of the matter is that if there is anything that has prevented government from fiscal balance, it is the swelling public debt. The total public sector debt stood at P5.3 trillion as of September 2003

Total public sector debt was estimated at 130 percent of GDP as of the end 2003. Interest payments now account for a third of the government budget, with some estimates putting the real figure at 46 percent at the end of 2003

But why does the UPSE step so gingerly around the public debt issue? Could it be because so much of the public debt is owed to foreign creditors, and dealing seriously MATU AT MATI MESSAL USANAS ED COURTOUR DIGSE lenders? While official sources say that about half of the public debt is owed to foreign creditors, others claim that the actual figure comes closer to 80 percent since much of what passes for domestic debt is actually owed to resident foreigners or foreign credit relent by local banks. POLNESEARCH/ INQGRAPHIC, ERNIE SAHRO

- Tax i from (as percent of gross domestic product)						
enue	Bureau of Internal Rev	National Government	Year 1997			
	13	17				
	12 65	15.6	1998			
	_{2.6} 11.47	14.5	1999			
	10.91	13.9	2000			
1	10 58	13.3	2001			
	9 96	12 5	2002			
•	9.91	12.5	2003			

SOURCE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE

POI RESEARCH

True, the paper early on nervously discusses the idea of defaulting with local lenders, which it rejects. But dealing with our foreign debtors? It is testimony to how full debt repayment according to the terms dictated by our creditors has become a sacred cow that the UPSE paper fails to even mention the possibility of managing it rationally.

Instead, our authors at times speak like apologists for the creditors, saying that interest rates have been "quite benign." This is a strange way of characterizing interest rates charged to struggling developing country governments like the Philippines, which have always been so much higher than those charged to developed countries and corporations.

Automatic appropriation

The truth of the maner is that the main item that has busted and will always bust any attempt at fiscal alleviation, much less balance, is the never ending and rising payments to foreign creditors. The truth of the matter is that unless we find a way to bring rational management to our foreign debt, which means devaluing it, we will have a woefully inadequate strategy of containing the deficir. We can agree—and we do with many of them, though not all-with the measures proposed by the UP economists, but they are simply icing to the cake of debt

The economists of UP were not always this timid. During the first explosion of the debt crisis in 1983-86, in the famous white paper written by several of the same economists, the following statement appears: "The search for a recovery program that is consistent with a debt repayment schedule determined by our creditors is a futile one and should therefore be abandoned." The advice was not followed by President Corazon Aquino, who chose the "model debtor" strategy of fully complying with debt obligations to foreign creditors. Thus, repaying the debt on the terms demanded by the creditors became the national economic priority,

with development taking a backseat. This priority was insututionalized by Executive Order 292, which affirmed the "automatic appropriation" of the full amount to service the debt from the budget of the national government that was originally mandated by Marcos' Presiden-

ual Decree 1177 Stagnation and decline

Making constantly rising debt payments a sacred cow legally not only made the national budget structurally prone to deficits. Government is usually the biggest and most important investor in developing countries like the Philippines. Owing to the prioritization of foreign debt repayment, government spending has been, over the last rwo decades, confined largely to financing salaries and other operating expenses. For the last 18 years, very little of the budget could be devoted to capital expenditures, thus practically eliminating government spending as

an engine of development Along with the structural adjustment measures imposed under the guidance of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the strategy of making debt repayment the national prionty, which has been followed by every administration since Marcos, has created a condition of structural stagnation-what Massachusetts Institute of Technology economist Rudiger Dombusch describes as a low-level trap in which low investment, increased unemplayment, reduced consumption, and low output interacted to create a victous cycle of stagnation and decline. This is the source of what we have called in a recent book the permanent structural crisis of the Philippine economy.

Way out

There is no easy way out of the fiscal crisis. The measures proposed by the UP economists should be seen for what they are: measures that will help alieviate but will not fundamentally confront the problem.

On the revenue side, reversal of the unilateral liberalization program is essential. The government has already begun this with Executive Order 241, which raised the tariffs on many manufacturing products and Executive Order 264, which froze the liberalization programs for a number of agricultural and fishery products. The reversal of the program should, however, be, accelerated and the government must resist determined efforts by neoriberal economusts and technocrats to reinstitute it

Of course, reversing anilateral liberalization will not only result in greater revenue. Equally if not more important, it will banish; a program that, in the words of Isidro Camacho, "has killed so many local industries" because of "the uneven implementation of" trade liberalization, which was to our disadvantage."

On the spending side, there is no getting around the fact that we will need to devalue the foreign debt. What this means is polidcal courage of the highest kind, and that, unfortunately, is in short supply in the current administration. But we only have to look at Argentina's experience to realize. that we have no choice but to grab the foreign debt bull by the horns.

The main reason for the collapse of the Ar- ; gentine economy was the policy of being a good debtor even when it was dear that servicing the debt was dragging the economy over the cliff. When Argentina defaulted on its foreign debt in 2001, it was because it could." no longer service it at the unerous terms anposed by the creditors. The period of crisis has . now given way to a period of growth, with resources going into investment rather than debt service. Unburdened by debt repayments, Argentina grew by seven percent

With an economy on the mend, the creditors are asking for full debt repayment. No way, says Argentine President Nestor Kirchner. The best offer, he has told bondholders, is 20 to 25 cents to each dollar owed them. Take it or leave it. And he has been able to get away with it, with even the IMF giving way and rewarding him instead with a \$3.3 billion loan.

With creditors

To our creditors, many of whom have been paid many times over for the original sum lent us, we can say, loosen your terms to, say, 50 cents to the dollar now or you will get a bankruptcy that will drag you along with it. Better 50 cents to the dollar now, rather than 20 cents or nothing later. Of course, there are many variants to such a negotiating strategy, and they need not involve brinkmanship. But the point is that that we must be much, much tougher with our creditors than we have been so far.

Our friends from the UP School of Economics say we must all share in the sacrifice that will be needed to avoid economic collapse. We agree, but we must include our; foreign creditors in that burden sharing.

Now, the political courage that will engage in that sort of negotiation is what we need in our leadership circles at this point. And what we need from UP and other! economists is the intellectual courage to recommend and guide such a course of action. Without frontally confronting and following a strategy of devaluing the foreign debt, fiscal collapse and bankruptcy will not only be a strong possibility but a certainty.

(Walden Bello is professor of sociology and public administration at the University of the Philippines, Diliman, and executive director of the Bangkok-based Focus on the Global South, Ludy Nacpil is secretary general of the Freedom from Debt Coalition (FDC); and Ano Maria Nemenso is prestdent of the FDC.}

Proposed tax measures may aggravate the industrial crisis

By Wigberto E. Tañada

The UP School of Economics (UPSE) paper has done the country some good. It has reawakened the nation about the gravity of the fiscal crisis, which, if left unresolved, may precipitate a full-blown politico-economic crisis similar to what we experienced in 1981-95 or what Argentina had to suffer in the early years of the millennium

However, to our mind, the UPSE paper could have done the country better if it did not remain silent on the major mot causes of the fiscal crisis. For instance, it was quiet on the problem of smuggling, ournght and technical, which is depriving the country of at least P175 billion annually or almost equal to the annual fiscal deficit. About half of these smuggling-related revenue losses are due to the gross undervalution of Philippine imports. For example, some Chinese shoes are valued as low as \$0.10 to \$0.50 a pair.

Import undervaluation means the government is unable to collect the correct import duties, averaging 5 to 6 percent last year, and the 10 percent value added tax (VAT) Import undervaluation also explains why United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and International Monetary Fund data show why official Philippine imports for 2003 totaled \$37.5 billion, and yet our trade partners claim a total of \$45.5 billion of goods being exported to the Philippines last year.

The UPSE paper was also silent on the unilateral tariff liberalization program, which has reduced Philippine tariffs to "nuisance" rates of 0 to 5 percent. The radical tariff liberalization program is the main reason for the reduction of the Bureau of Customs' collection from 4.8 percent of the gross domestic product in 1996 to 2.4 percent in 2002. As pointed out by Justice Florentino Peliciano, a former presiding official in the World Trade

body, the unilateral tariff liberalization constituted "unilateral total disarmament," as the program put the country's domestic producers at a great disadvantage vis-a-vis high tariff countries such as China, Thailand, India and Vietnam as well as vis-à-vis developed countries such as Australia and the United States, which also make effective use of non-tariff barners like health, environment, phyto-sanitary and other product standards as barriers to the entry of our exports.

The unitateral tariff liberalization and the high cost of doing business are two major reasons for the collapse of a big number of local industries and the decision of some multinational corporations to close down their Philippine manufacturing operations and to shift to importanon and distribution business.

We, at the Pair Trade Alliance, believe that the fiscal crisis is rooted in the industriel crisis. One reason for the declining tax intake of the government is precisely the shrinking industrial sector, the most taxable among the different economic sectors (services, agriculture and overseas employment). As reflected in the National Staristics Office data, the formally registered enterprises have been going down since the mid-1990s. As a result, the number of employed enterprise workers went down from 6 million in 1999 to 5.7 million in 2003.

What has been expanding instead is the informal sector. But being informal and unregistered, enterprises in this sector do not pay taxes. And so are enterprises in the free trade zones, which are given fiscal incentives (and yet, are also beginning to leave in favor of China and Vietnam). And so are the smugglers and the tax evaders.

Now the UPSE paper, is being used by the government to push for new tax measures. We are afraid that the burden of resolving the fiscal crisis is being passed on to the country's honest and over-burdened producers and taxpayers through the graduated expansion of VAT and the imposition of taxes on power and telecommu- convenor of the Fair Trade Alliance.)

Organization (WTO) dispute settlement nucations. At the same time, the fiscal crisis is in effect being used to freeze public spending on education, health and vital social and physical infrastructure programs. Both sets of measures will further erode the competitiveness of domestic industry and agriculture. In short, the proposed cures may seriously injure if not kill the taxable sector itself.

We humbly suggest that the government and the policy makers use the fiscal crisis as an opportunity to put our economic house in order and institute bold reforms, including the implementation of non-tax revenue measures. These should include the following:

 A no-nonsense drive against smuggling. Big-time amugglers and their cohorts in government should be hauled to prison.

 Intensification of the drive against tax evaders and the fast-tracking of the resolution of all big tax cases pending

 The upward re-calibration of tariffs for all industrial and agricultural goods based on the maximum WTO bindings of the Philippines, except for raw materials used by local industry, to level the trading field

Finally, there should be an overhaul of the existing agro-industrial plan which has failed the nation. The failure of the government to pursue an alternative, independent and progressive agro-industrial policy, which is not debt-dependent and seeks the allout development of the industrial and agricultural potentials of the economy, is at the root of the fiscal and industrial crisis. Unless we replace the neo-liberal dogma in economic planning and programming in favor of the all-out strengthening of Philippine industry and agriculture, the nation shall be in perpetual crisis-fiscal and

(Wigberto E. Tañada it the load

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Exec says terror threat in RP still strong

BAGUIO CITY—Malacañang is addressing new information revealed on Thursday here about a terrorist surveillance operation in the Sto. Tomas relay station that had gone undetected except for a random report by a security guard.

This report reinforced a little- ed Sto. Tomas in May 2000. known government assessment that President Macapagal-Arroyo's decision to withdraw in advance the Philippine contingent from Iraq had not made the country any safer from Iraqi retaliation, "or any other regional threats," said Defense Undersecretary Abraham Purugganan.

This was the most straightforward conclusion yet from local terrorist experts, since Ms Arroyo endured heavy criticisms from the United States-led Coalition of the William for withdrawing Filipino troops to save abducted overseas worker Angelo de la Cruz in May this year.

Purugganan heads the Malacañang Task Force for the Security of Critical Infrastructures (YFS-Cl), which is touring the country to brief local governments about a national antiterror defense plan.

-He had conducted security workshops in the Ilocos and Cagayan regions, and in Davao before the Baguio leg.

Casing

George Demot, security officer of the John Hay Management Corp. (JHMC), divulged to Purugganan that a suspect in the 2000 Rizal Day bombing had toured the relay station atop Sto. Tomas here and had even taken video footage of the huge satellite disks there.

Demot, a former police officer stationed here, said the government recognized the name of a Jordanian whose name appeared on a security book along with three other foreigners who visit-

Purugganan said the information needed to be confirmed, but he agreed that it increased the need for a clear-cut antiterrorism law or policy.

भाग राज्या । इ.स.च्यापार प्रश्लेष्ट स्थाप । इ.स.च्यापार १८०० च्या । इ.स.च्यापार १८०० च्या । इ.स.च्यापार १८०० च

He said the government is making "adjustments" when asked by the INQUIRER if the country needs to draw up its own list of potential terror threats outside of the "common terrorist lists" provided by the US and Europe.

H# admitted that the government liak no basis to call any orgastization, whether foreign or domestic as terrorist, because no lawdefines it for the country.

The government cannot even call the New People's Army terrorist. The Armed Forces of the Philippines calls the NPA terrorist but not the Philippine government," Purugganan said.

He said the Filipino troops' pullout from Iraq has not weakened the government's resolve to fight international terrorism, particularly Islamic extremists from the Middle East like the al-Qaida.

He said there is no evidence pointing to a reduction of al-Qaida hostilities against the country because of its withdrawal.

But he agreed that the government has yet to consider the threats coming from Asia, such as extremists from Japan or China.

Security directors of tourism, telecommunications, power generation and local government properties presented their respective autitemor strategies to Purugganan. Vincent Cobreza and Frank Cimatu, PDI Northern Luson Bureau



A boy swims in floodwaters clinging to the year of a vehicle that was stuck in the flood in Hagonoy, Bulacan.

JOAN BONDOC/POLPHOTO

Tough anti-smoking drive in Dumaguete launched

By Alex Pal

PDI Visayas Bureau

DUMAGUETE CITY-An aggressive campaign against smoking in Dumaguete is in the

Spearheaded by the Sillman University College of Nursing and Allied Health Services, the movement aims to make business owners disallow and their clients to stop smoking in all restaurants

and hotel lobbies or even in the Sinda proposed the city to streets.

Dr. Ma. Teresita Sinda, dean of the SUCNAHS, said this campaign would be undertaken in collaboration with the World Health Organization.

Sinda appeared before the City Council session last Thursday to present her proposal for a tie-up with the city government for this ambitious project.

As partners in this project,

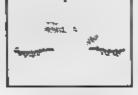
share half of the P58,000 budget of this drive. The money will be spent mainly for the purchase of materials for the antismoking information cam-

"More and more young people are picking up the smoking habit in Dumaguete," Sinda

She said that the reason for the increase in the number of young

smokers is that they are not scared by the government warnings printed on the cigarette packs and in cigarette advertise-

Sinda suggested that the warnings against smoking should be printed in such a manner that it would make the smoker think twice about actually lighting a cigarette. She cited a sign in Canada that said "smoking cankill you."



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SLEEPING PROBLEMS? Solon says now's right Insomnia - Prostate Enlargement - Menstrual Disorder time to amend Charter

the April 18th April 6

Floorleader Prospero Nograles is turning the current fiscal crisis into an argument to change the

Nograles said that the national government's proposal to freeze the local government's share in the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) only shows that so much dependence on the highly-centralized government in Manila can wreck havoc on the financial condition of towns and cities in the country.

"We raise funds in Davao City, transmit these funds to the national government but then, in

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share of such funds that had come from here in the first place," Nograles told a Mindanao-wide forum for independent Mindanao

He said the current fiscal crisis shows that there is pressing need to push for a change in the Constitution to end the national government's power to freeze or suspend the IRA of the local government

Keep what you earn

"In the end, it all depends upon the interest of Manila when to transmit these funds to us.

DAVAO CITY-House Majority the end, we have to beg for our Look at Bukidnon, for instance. Bukidnon shares P170 million of the IRA each year but (it) has to use its imagination on how tokeep up its operation once the national government decides to withhold its IRA," No-

> Under a federal form of government, he said federal states "keep what they earn and earn what they keep."

But Nograles admitted the proposal to shift to a federal form of government is headed for , a tough situation.

Although 50 legislators from Mindanao are supportive of federalism, Nograles said he expects to have a hard time convincing members of the Senate, who will most likely resist

One of the senators who had supported a shift to a federal form of government is Aquilino Pimentel. Former Sen. John Osmeña had also supported a federal form of government saying dependence on "imperial" Manila was not the solution to the country's economic

"They (senators) said yes to federalism during the campaign period but after the elections they are now saying they will think about it." he said.

But Nograles said he will still vigorously

"I shall do everything to push for this feder." al form of government," he said. Germeling Lacorte and Anthony Aliada, PDI Mindanao



Drug pushers held

COTABATO CITY—Authorities have arrested eight suspected drug pushers, some of them alleged relatives of Vice President Noti de Castro's wate, during a raid here on Thursday. The Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (PDEA-ARMM) identified seven of the suspects as Bal-Lily, 65: Binggo, 21, and Mohammad, all surnamed Sinsuat, Fioisa Arsenal, Miche le Sero, 18; Bernardo Yap. 26; and Bal Monette Limso, 20. The PDEA report said the raid was carried out atter a month-long planning. The suspects are now being kept at the PDEA detention cell here. Rosa-May de Guzman, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Help from consumers

VICTORIA, Leguna—The Department of Trade and Industry here, warned customers to pay only for the price that appears on tags and not what appears in bar codes or electronic counters, as provided for in the Consumer Act of the Philippines. Susan Palo, Laguna DTI director, in a pressirelease said "it is the store's responsibility when it puts a wrong figure in the price tag. The customer should not bear the burden (of paying amounts) out of the mistakes of store owners." She asked customers to report to the DTI any store, mall, supermarket, etc. selling products without price lags and expira-

Romulo Poole, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

2 NPA rebs slain

LEGAZP: CITY—Two rebals died in an encounter between New People's Army members and the Masbate Police Mobile Group in Barangay Casabangan Pio V. Corpuz, Masbate ast Salurday Brig. Gen. Ramon Santos, commanding officer of. the Army' 901st Infantry Brigade based in Sarangay Villahermosa, Daraga, Albay, said no one waskilled on the government side

Joyce Mejillano, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Alert vs fake coco wine

VICTORIA, Laguns—The Department of Trade and Industry Laguna office here has warned the public against take "iambanog" (ecconut wine), which it said might be fatal to one's health. Susan Palo, DTI-Laguna director, made the warming after the department received several complaints alleging that some unscrupulous traders had labeled their wine products as lambanog even if these were not manufactured according to standards. To avoid probterns, Pake urged the public to buy those only from manufacturers or sellers accredited by the DTI.

Romula Pante, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Belt tightening

LUCENA CITY-The soldiers and officials of the Armed Forces Southern Luzon Unillied Command based in Camp Nakar here have long been practicing belt-tightening measures, according to the camp's spokesman. "During command conferences, what we usually have for snacks are native 'merienda' (tems like banana due and boiled campte. Fastfood stuffs like cheeseburger and spagnetti are alien to Solcom officials. For drinks, we have coffee but most of us prefer the native brew," Maj. Jose Broso, Solcom spokesperson, tote the Induiner. He added: "Even our visitors are also being served with the same native seacks."

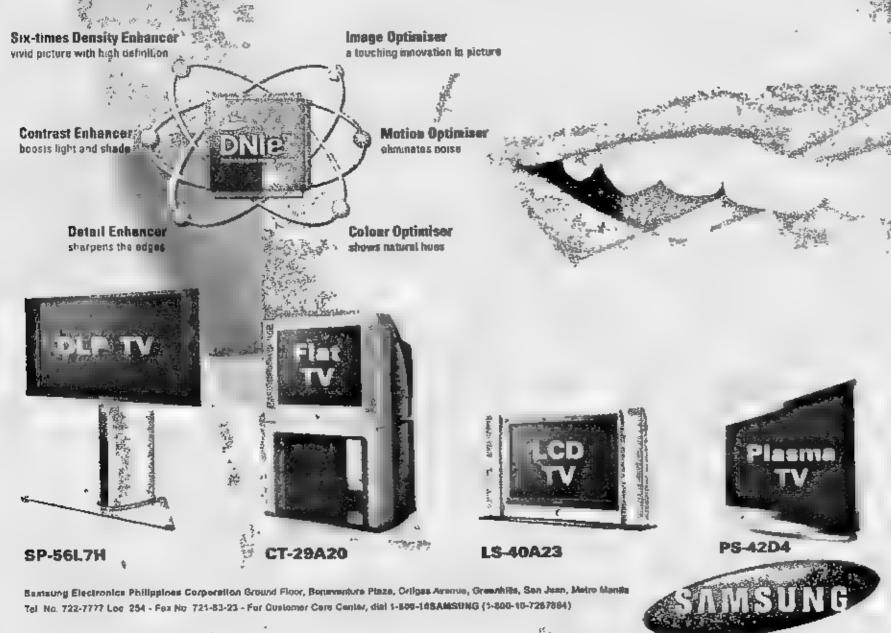
Cops assure media

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna-Calabarzon police officials met with media groups here and assured those covering the region of assistance regarding the threats they face in line with their job. Chief Supt. Reynaldo Vardia, Philippine National Police Calabarzon director, and his staff met with members of the PRO4 Press Corps and Camp Vicente Lim Press Corps in his office to discuss how the police could be of help with the newsmen lacing threats. Verilla noted an Industra report that listed Southern Tagalog as the second most dangerous region for journalists in the country. He advised purnalists here to immediately inform the police of death threats and other cases of intimidation He directed the Regional Interligence Office to work closely with journalists who had filed complaints before their office

Marion Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau



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Across the NATION



There was no cause for concern when these gun-wielding men paraded in combat costumes and what appeared to be high-powered guns on Session Road during Baguio City's celebration of its founding day. They were members of the Philippine Soft Airgun Club and their weapons don't fire real bullets.

Former DENR chief vows to pursue fight vs polluting dumps

have "lost" her power but definitely not her fighting mood.

Former Environment Secretary Elizea "Beber" Gozun yesterday vowed to file cases against local executives who still fail to comply with the Solid Waste Management Act as she led over 2,000 environmentalists, local government officials and students in celebrating the 1st Los Baños "Pista ng Kapaligaran" held here.

Gozun said she is closely working with lawyer Antonio Oposa Jr. of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines to start filing cases against heads of several towns who continue to use open dumps.

We have actually sent letters to all the local government units calling their attention to fully implement the law. It's been three years (since the law was adopted) so there's no reason for them to ignore it," she told the INQUIRER.

known as RA 9003, enacted in PDI Southern Luton Bureau

LOS BAÑOS, Laguna-She may 2001, gives municipalities until the end of this month to transform open dumps into controlled ones.

Gozun said since she took over the helm at the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. more than 150 dumps have been converted into controlled dumps.

More than 600 material recovery facilities, an alternative to dumps, were also established, she said.

Gozun said she would continue what she had started in her three year stay at the DENR.

"Don't worry. As private Bebet, I would still be working with (environmentalists) to continue our campaign against illegal dump and run after those who violate environmental laws," she told the participants of the program held inside the former municipal open dump.

The once one-hectare dump, now aptly called the Los Baños Waste Recycling Racility is now home to several composting facilities servicing veg-The law on solid wastes, also etable plantations. Marion Ramos,

Retrenchment hovers over municipal employees

By Romy G. Amarado PDI Visayas Burcau

DUMAGUETE CITY-Many mumerpal employees will be laid off as local government units in Negros Oriental instituted austerity measures to cushion the impact of the extreme financial constraints confronting the country. in Sibulan, a town some 6 km

than 100 workers kept in the payroll on a per project basis, also known as the "job order employees," would be gradually removed from the service beginning Wednesday

The number of employees to be laid off could increase if necessary, according to town mayor

Antonio Renacia, Renacia said it pained him to see

Вигест

north of here, at least 50 of the more municipal employees becoming jobless but he could not retain them because the town could no longer pay for their salaries, especially with the plan of the national govemment to cut down the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) of LGUs.

> Renacia said that with the fiscal crisis the country is experiencing, it would now be very difficult to get funding support from other gov-

ernment agencies, congressmen and senators for some projects.

That's why the municipality will have to use its own meager resources for these projects that could have been used for personnel services, including salaries," he said.

In Bais City, about 40 km north of here, Mayor Hector Villanueva also raised the possibility of cutting down the number of contrac-

some national officials to slash the IRA of LGUs matemalizes.

In fact, he said, job order employees of Bais City have to work on rotation since last month.

But Dumaguete City Mayor Agustin Perdices said laying off government employees would be the

last recourse of his administration. Right now, the mayor said, he

tual employees should the plan of implemented austerity measures. This included making sure that office supplies, and consumptionof electricity, water and other expenditures are minimized.

At the capitol, Negros Oriental provincial administrator Mariloit Kho said the provincial governe ment is now very strict on the travel of provincial employees and officials outside Dumaguete.-

Islam, Arabic to be taught in schools

COTABATO CITY-By 2005, the reachings of Islam and the Arabic language would already form part of the educational curriculum in public elementary schools, and gradually in all school levels within the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindango and elsewhere in the country.

"Public schools (at present), do not include Arabic language and Islamic values, making the Muslims ignorant of their religion and the language of the Holy Koran. Private Madaris (Islamic schools) do not follow the Philippine educational curriculum, thereby, turning students into virtual foreigners in their own country," outgoing Education Secretary Edilberto de Je sus said in a DepEd order issued on Aug. 28.

President Macapagal-Arroyo has endorsed De Jesus' directive and would issue an executive order to this effect immediately after her state visit from China, a Malacanang official said.

The idea, according to ARMM DepEd administrator Leovigilda Cinches, stemmed from the "long sought dream and aspiration of Muslims" to include Islam and Arabic in the standard curriculum of public schools in the country, particularly in the ARMM

Cinches, who was behind De Jesus' DepEd Order 51, said she considered the implementation of the new curriculum next school year as "more than a furfillment."

Exit effort

The signing of the Tripoli (Peace) Agreement between the Philippine government and the Moro National Liberation Front in 1976 had seen the establishment of private-owned Islamic schools in Mindanao under close government supervision.

"But never has Islam and Arabic became part of public schools curriculum," Cinches said

She said many education officials in the past "cried but failed" to make islam and Arabic part of the curriculum.

Cinches viewed the inclusion as De Jesus' "exit endeavor."

Former Batanes Rep. Florencio Abad had replaced De Jesus.

"In the interest of nanonal unity and the implementation of the 1996 Peace Agreement (with the MNLF), Madrasah education has become a vita, component of the national educational system," De Jesus said in the order

Cinches said the inclusion of Islamic teachings and the Arabic language in the curriculum had the approval of the Project Madrasah Education of the DepEd ARMM, Accrediting Association of Muslim Schools and Colleges Inc., and the Bangsamoro Development Agency.

These groups, according to Cinches, met in a seminar workshop here on Aug. 20-23, where they unanimously endorsed the inclusion of the Islamic curriculum after a thorough review.

The curriculum, which begins in the elementary level, would aim to establish smooth transfer of students from public to private Madrasalt or vise versa, foster unity among students, promote Filipino national identity and preserve Muslims' cultural hentage.

Initially, its implementation will be confined to the ARMM provinces of Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, Basilan and the cities of Isabela and Marawi.

Charlie Señase, PDI Mendanao Bureau

By Vincent Cabreza PDI Northern Luzon

BAGUIO CITY-Beset by Benguet farmers "invading" their ancient nee terraces. Ifugao environmentalists have decided to return the favor by introducing to them their and tree technology that has sustained the centuries-old relics.

Dressed in traditional Ifugao garb, Ваупеса, Santos member of the lfugao Global Forest City Movement, ledon Friday a team of Ifugao and Japanese volunteers to Kennon Road where they planted rosewood tree saplings that used to dominate the watershed canopies of the Cordillera rice terraces.

Bayucca said Ifugao ecologists want to teach Benguer farmers the necessity of numuring watersheds atop mountains that are converted into terraced farms.

The more obscure rice terraces of Tinoc town in Ifugao are slowly being turned into vegetable gardens by Benguet farmers, who entered the area when roads were opened linking the border towns of Ifugao and Benguet

The land conversions have alarmed



FILMMAKER Kidlat Tahimik takes part in a tree planting program of the Ifugao Global.

officials because of their ecological impact on Ifugao's mossy

Ancient technology

Benguer farmers have exploited abandoned or uneconomical rice terraces by using buildozers Benguet and Ifugao or by undertaking kongan (slash) fore European engineers discov-

and burn cleanings).

Baguio photographer and artist Tommy Hafaila, who has been documenting the sociology and anthropology of Igorot communines, said ancient lfugao technology appeared to have learnessed the science of hydrogeology long be-

ered its application for farming. The centuries-old rice ter-

races of Hungduan thrive on a series of water-impounding and water absorbing layers of vegetation that is held together by the pinugo (Ifugao term for watershed), said Emilia Nauyac-Bayucca, a cultural researcher.

The vegeration absorbed runoff rainwater and pipes it naturaily down a series of man-made dikes that feed into each terrace steps, she said.

Bayucca said Benguet farmers would benefit from this technology because they have been encountering difficulties sustaining the province's badly damaged soil.

The Department of Agriculture noted in a 2001 report that Benguet farmers have been migrating out of the decades-old farms because 50 years of heavy vegetable farming had worn

down their lands' ecosystem. Ifugao Global has been raising nurseries of rosewood, which is one of the indigenous trees identified by Ifugao oral history.

For Ifugao's dwindling industry of woodcarvers, rosewood is also the timber of choice, Bayucca said. "We all need rosewood but when I did a inventory of the tree, I could only find one in Sablan town (in Benguet), and three trees in Kiangan town (Ifugao). We import our rosewood from Nueva Vizcaya but we learned that those trees are disappearing from their mountains also," he said.

thigao Global founder Lopez Nauyac proposed to rebuild the piringo (watersheds) of the Ifugao rice terraces in 2000, Bayucca said.

"Many of our neighbors could not understand at first why it was necessary. But eventually it was the children of our community (in Hungduan) who volunteered to plant trees in 2000," his wife said.

The Japanese have recognized Ifugao Global's efforts. The Inter- in the tree planting.

national Kudzu Green Sannan Reforestation Campaign Inc. (IKGS), which had undertaken a tree replenishing program in Zambales, went to the Hungduan terraces to . help Nauyac, Bayunca said.

Volunteers

"We trained all nine barangays of Hungduan to nurture rosewood seedlings into saplings, and then we ask the schoolchildren to plan and protect the saplings along ancient terrace watersheds," he said.

Ifugao Global is also being financed by a P1-million grant from the former Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica).

Bayacca said Hungduan is prepared to grow enough resewood for the rest of Ifugao's terraces, but the rate of "farm invasion," which has despoiled interior town terraces such as Tinoc's, has convinced Ifugao Global to undertake a parallel program outside Ifugan.

Last Friday's tree planting project was Ifugao Global's first public foray as pinugo technology advocates, Bayucca said.

Baguio, he said, is a potential market for rosewood, which could help them refinance the nursery programs replenishing Hagao's pinuges.

The project is tied with Baguio's new "green economics" program, which proposes to finance livelihood projects for barangays, said Vic Aquitania, city planning officer in charge of environmental projects.

Japanese teenagers Asuka Otake, Ikue Nashimoto, Chisoto Fukaseko, Maiko Nagesawa, and Hasegawa Midori clambered around the Kennon hillside with Bayucca's six-year-old son Isaiah "Mondatag" to plant the trees.

Filmmaker Kidlat Tahımik, who has migrated to Hungduan, and IKGS Philippine coordinator Kasuya Tomita also participated

Greenpeace urges RP to shift to power from wind

By Carla P. Gomez PDI Visayas Bureau

BACOLOD CITY-The Greenpeace International on Friday called on the Philippine government to adopt a bold renewable energy policy that aims to supply 12 percent of the country's energy needs with wind power by the year

"There are compelling arguments that make this target achievable, especially against a backdrop of rising energy demands and skyrockering oil prices," said Chris Harris, campaign director of Greenpeace Southeast

Greenpeace visited potential wind farm sites in Negros Occidental, whose rejection of polluting energy sources such as coal and its 100 percent renewable energy policy has earned it a reputation as the Asian model for community-based clean energy generation, he

"We are extremely pleased to see a real clean energy revolution being spurred by small communities in Negros. It is now time for the Philippine government to follow on the revolution started by the people of Negros and become bolder in its clean energy targets. The Philippines clearly stands to be-

In a tour this week, delegates from come a wind energy powerhouse if is an aggressive government proleaders have the will to do so," Harris

In Negros, positive indicators from tests being made in the coastal town of Pulupandan have already drawn the interest of investors. Another coastal area in Sojoton, Cauayan has been identified as a potential wind farm site and in a few months will undergo tests for wind

Greenpeace cited two important factors for wind energy to take off in the country. One is funding and support from large international financial institutions such as the Asian Development Bank. The other

gram that provides significant incentives to investors in clean energy projects.

Earlier this year, the Philippine gov ernment announced its intention to make the country Asia's top producer of wind power.

"Once harnessed and supported by the right policy and financial incentives, the Philippines could easily leapfrog into the renewable age and avoid being locked in an obsolete fossil-fuel based energy path," said Athena Ronquilio-Bailesieros, energy

campaigner of Greenpeace Interna-

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Editor Jun Bandayrel Bureou Chief Nico A. Alconaba

A radioman's journey to hell and back

'It is unfortunate to be listed as a casualty, but this is ■ sign I will have to live longer'

By Ryan D. Rosauro Ozamiz City

LUTCHING the newspaper, Noel Esin, 36, read an INQUIR-Ex article containing the list of 80 journalists slain since 1986 that inadvertently included himself.

After reading the list, Esin turned to his teasing colleagues at radio station dxSY and said: "It may be unfortunate to be listed as a casualty, but this is a sign I will have to live longer."

Esin was listed as killed on Aug. 31, 2001, while he was still with Radyo Agong dxBC in

Flicky Eser - Jose (BSCS '91)

IT Manager Microsoft Corporation, USA

Technology Specialist JP Morgan-Chase Bank

Singapore

Anthony Fulay (BSCS '91) Senior IT Architect

American Electric Power Service Corp.

That was the day he was kidnapped by six

known location, believed to be in Misamis captors: first, for me to give them my notes Oriental. Oriental

At dawn that day, Esin boarded a passenger bus from Butuan bound for Cagayan de Oro. In Gingoog City, the bus was flagged down by armed men who climbed in as if to look for someone. To Esin's surprise, they grabbed him and forced him into a van. One man poked a gun at his back and nape, causing Esin to faint. When he regained consciousness, he was already blindfolded and hog-tied to a chair, his back against a wall.

Esin said that, to this day, he still has no idea where he was brought, except that he frequently heard the sounds of birds flying by and smelled copra being dried.

DUR GRADIATES

that they [believed contained] facts about the illegal drug web that I exposed over the radio; second, for me to stop my work," he said.

For two weeks, Esin had to sleep sitting down. Showing the scars on his feet, he narrated how his feet were at times soaked in hot water to pressure him to give in to his captors'

The "glory day" came when he woke up one morning hearing gunshots from all directions. He recalled being whisked toward a vehicle that sped off. Still blindfolded and hogned, he was then thrown out of the vehicle. He rolled down a small full.

When he was rescued a few hours later, he

There were only two demands from my found himself in Talisayan town in Misamis

Esm said he had received threats when he ... was assigned to Butuan in 2000. He rememhered diving in a canal and hiding in a culvert in Cagayan de Oro to evade his attackers duting an early-morning hike.

Prior to his kidnapping, Esin had been exposing the web of individuals and crime groups involved in smuggling and peddling illegal drugs in Butuan. He admitted having named a Chinese-Filipino and a few police officers as among those running the "crime.

Ambush

A week before being kidnapped, Esin said he. was ambushed as he was taking out a motorcycle. He had just come from an induction program of a village chapter of "Agong Diehards," a group founded and maintained by the station as a strategy to keep its listener base for rating purposes. His bodyguard was killed.

Those responsible presumably found out Esin survived. Days after the incident, the dxBC station was fired at.

Esin, who was carrying a sidearm with him when he was ambushed, now said a firearm is; not the best protection against attackers.

"There should be no nonsense law enforce-. ment on the part of government," he said.

Holding the list of killed reporters, Esin asked: "Tell me, which among these murders have been solved?

"That's the irony of it all. These people help [the] government get rid of corruption and crime in their localities but did [the] government care when they were killed?" he asked. On top of the generally low economic re-

wards vis-a-vis work pressures, Esin said protection is the top concern among journalists. Esin started his broadcasting career with

Nation Broadcasting Corporation's dxCl. radio station in Cagayan de Oro in 1988, fresh from a two-year training in radio announcing. In 1990, he transferred to dxIF Bombo

Radyo, which he credits for "indoctrinating" him about the role news media must play in

He rose from being a field reporter to senior reporter handling a public affairs program of the station's "Bombohanay Afternoon Reports."

In 2000, he moved to Radio Mindanao Network's dxBC in Butuan City.

Drugs

Esin said he was dragged into the anti-lilegal drugs cause in Buttan through the Agong Diehards, with whom he formed the movement Kapit-Bisig Tulong tulong sa Kapwa

Kapit-Bisig became a platform for expressing the people's sentiment against the illegal drug peddling which became a serious problem at that time.

"I was thinking the police brass would be behind us all the way, but we were wrong,"

"When I was released from captivity, I later learned (that) some high-ranking police officials were involved in my abduction."

Today, Esin said, he was more circumspect in conducting his broadcast duties, "seeing to it [that] the requisites for going all the way were secured."

"But with the state of our police, can that be,

achieved?" he wondered. Immediately upon returning to work at dxBC after his two-week captivity. Esin said RMN removed him from his reportonal duties and let him focus on marketing and general management of the radio station.

On June 2003, he resigned and undertook small businesses in Cagayan de Oro while moonlighting with dxJR, a station owned by former Cagayan de Oro Rep. Erasmo Damasing.

"In a way, my abductors got one of their demands, that is, me backing out of my exposé with the ending of my broadcasting duties That's not good, but should I insist? I have to support two children who are to enter college soon," Esin said.

In June this year, the dxSY management offered him a full-time broadcast job by serving as the station's news anchor.



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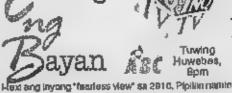
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-44

OCWs in Iraq: Dapat bang alisin na ang ban?

Thindi, mas implina ligias at buhay ang kapamilya. meraming paraan para kumita ng para, paro di mapapairian ang buhay ng kamog anak," Christian Santos, Cubec-

"big help striking ban by asisin rate of un emplymol paba3in dolor emings ng bnsa pta2asin mecexpos pigling kibbyte ntn."

Eugenio A. Dirsapilla, Silang, Cavite

3 4 5 5 5 4

(in exact order)

kt us your feedback: Inquirer met name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) Drivers feel safer as lawmen become more visible

By Luige A. del Puerto

WORD is out that if you throw a pebble on the street, it would likely land on a powerman's

head. Although said in jest, the statement acknowledges the visible change in the affairs of policemen, who are now seen watching the streets of Metro Manila day and night.

Lawmen in uniform have been on street corners and major roads, with patrol cars nearby, ready to respond to any incident.

Among those who have taken notice are FX and jeepney drivers who say they feel safer with the renewed police visibility.

just around the corner

"It's good to know that policemen are just around the corner, in case you need them," said FX driver Reneo Labbao.

FX taxi passengers have recently become preferred targets of armed robbers.

In Marikina City, policemen Gen. Ordonez Street and Bayan-Bayanan Avenue, and places frequented by people such as the Riverbanks center and the main public market.

At least three patrol cars guard strategic areas along Marcos Highway, a key road linking Metro

Manila to Rizal province.

Lawmen are also highly visible on Aurora Boulevard in Quezon City, which was recently cited by the police as having recorded the most number of crimes from Jannary to July this year.

Wary of armed robbers that victimize FX and jeepney passengers, Central Police District lawmen hold vigil especially at night until early morning.

For how long?

"If this continues, this is all good for us," said Glenn Orejeno, a taxi driver. "It would make robbers think twice."

However, Orejeno had his misgivings. "We know the new PNP chief is staying for only six months. Will this continue after that?" he asked.

Newly appointed PNP Deputy Director General Edgar Aglipay has ordered increased police patrois to ensure peace and order in the metropolis.

It is too early to determine whether the strategy has lessened guard major intersections such as the number of street crimes, offi-

> Last month, the National Capital Region Police Office said that crime statistics went down in Metro Manila this year from last year. The NCRPO attributed this to the high level of police visibility employed to stop kidnappings.



MEMBERS of the Western Police District man a checkpoint along Rottes Boulevard in Manife.

BH GUAC PUNZALAN

METROBRIEFS

Good Samaritans

A _AWYER and two village officials have learned that trying to help an accident victim can have its own dangers. At about 11 p.m. Friday, lawyer Kenneth Radaza to-d police that he was driving under the Magailanes interchange when he saw a man lying unconscious on the street. He got down and tried to check on the man later identified as Rodolfo Tamayo, 40 Tamayo and three-year-old John Michael Puntahar were hit by a truck as they drove on a bicycle with a sidecar. Suddenly the father of Puntanan Marcelo, appeared and tried to stab the lawyer with an ice pick. Marceto had thought that it was Radaza that hit his son. The father also tried to stab barangay tanods Josei to de Guzman and Roberto Ambrosio when they tried to intervene. No one was burt in the attack. The boy was reported out of danger but Tamayo d ed the following day. Nancy G.

Shot where it hurts

A MARINE who got into a fight shot his foe where it buit the most-inthe testicies. Danilo lbot, of 380 6th St. GHO. Zone 1, Signal Village, Taguig, surrendered to the police and turned over his gun, a 45-cal. pistof with six bullets. His foe Glibert Briza was rushed to the Rizal Medical Center, where he was reportedly Hancy C. Carvajal

Higher NBI fees

IF PLANS push through, applicants would have to dig deeper into their pockets to get a clearance from the National Bureau of investigation. The NBI is studying the possibility of increasing the P115 fee for getting clearance from the bureau isaid Oirector Reynaldo Wycoco Wycoco said the funds would be needed mainly for the maintenance of NB! clearance section equipment. Leib

Wayward warning

CHR ST AN Donina 18, was hilling the back by a stray bullet fired by PO1 Ramor Sangeo 34, who is assigned to the administrative department of Camp Crame, Sangco was running after Rolando Nicanor who had been engaged in a fistfight with a neighbor. When Nicanor resisted arrest and ran off, Sangco fired two warning shots. One of the bullets landed in the back of Doning, who was rushed to the Ospital ng Mayni-Leile B Salayerrie

Not Tierra Monte

THE DEVELOPER of Tierra Monte Subdivision in San Maleo yesterday said that it was not the place where a landshide occurred one week ago, killing tive people. Tierra Monte corrected an item in the story "San Mateo's hely paradise to peril?" which came out on page A-23 of the Sept. 4, 2004 issue of the Inquires. The linquiren has verified that the incident took place in the adjacent subdivision. of Santa Barbara 2 Both Tierra Monte and Santa Barbara are in Barangay Silangan, San Maleo, Rizal

TRIBUTE TO RM

A nook for young readers opens

By Tarra V. Quismundo

AS A TRIBUTE to the late President Ramon Magsaysay, a reading room was dedicated to the well-loved leader on his birth anniversary last Aug. 31 inside the eight-year old children's library of the Museo Pambata in Manula.

We would like the children to be aware of who President Magsaysay was and the values he nurtured during his childhood," said Lourdes Mercado-Balbin, Ramon Magsaysay Awards Foundation (RMAF) communications

Esteemed guests

The reading room was launched with esteemed visitors as special guests this year's Ramon Magsaysay Awardees Abdullah Abu Sayeed from Bangladesh, for Journalism, Literature and Creative Communication Arts; Laxminarayan Ramdas from India and Ibn Abdur Rehman from Pakistan, for Peace and International Understanding, Prayong Ronnarong of Thailand, for Community Leadership, and Benjamin Abadiano from the Phihppines for Emergent Leadership.

The other Filipino awardee, Haydee Yorac, Chairperson of the Presidential Commission on Good Government (for Government Service), and Dr. Jiang Yanyong of China, for Public Service, were unable to make it to the occasion.

Getting acquainted

A nook where both children and adults can acquaint themselves with the life of the former president, the Ramon Magsaysay Reading Room welcomes visitors with a life-size photograph showing the late president leaping through a muddy ditch in a rice

fuel saving tips

WHEN BUYING A CAR

CONSIDER FUEL EFFICIENCY

The mim reading room offers a peek into how the "common too" (common man) president spent short by a plane crash on March

his stomach. And those who have less in life should have more in law," said former Agrarian Secretary Conrado Estrella, quoting the late president.

Photo exhibit

Estrella now heads the memorial foundation put up for the late

This "classic Magsaysay statement," as Estrella put it, comes alive in a photo exhibit inside the reading room, showing the late president kissing the hands of elders, mingling with school kids and visiting rural commu-

The photos are boxed in a comic book version of the Ramon Magsaysay life story, attractively framed in contrast to the blackand-white snapshots of the late

Well centerpiece

As a centerpiece, an old artesian well was placed in the middie of the room. The well was one of the 5,885 built under a nationwide irrigation project in Magsaysay's term, a priority project according to Estrella It was donated by farmer Leonardo Pascua of Rosario, Pangasinan.

More than just photos and artifacts, the Ramon Magsaysay Reading Room also offers a modest book collection for young

Jose Abueva's "Magsaysay's Political Biography" and Carlos Quirino's "Magsaysay" occupies a shelf with the works of National Artist Nick Joaquin and other

books on great Filipinos.

"We want to impress on the young how studious the presithe prime years of his life, cut. dent was so he becomes an inspiration for children. But more importantly, we want to stress that "The common man is funda- even if one is just an ordinary stumentally entitled to a roof over dent-which Magsaysay washis head, a little [more] cloth on one can become a president his back and a little more food in someday," said Madonna del Mundo, Museo Pambata E tive Director.

Extension

Built through a PS0,000 donation from the Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Foundation Inc., the reading room serves as an extension of the Museo Pambata's children's library that has around 5,000 donated books at present

The Ramon Magsaysay Reading Room was one of two projects under the RMAF school partnership program, which aims to introduce the life and times of the lare president to the young generation.

The other project is the Ramon Magsaysay Student Essay Competition. A compilation of winning essays in the past four years is one product of this undertaking.

Young Pens For Young Minds," featuring 21 essays by youthful essayists on the on the lives of past Ramon Magsaysay Awardees, was also launched

'Mother Nature'

Among the essays in the anthology is "Mother Nature," written by Korean Bomi Lee about her countryman Kim Im-Soon, 1989 Magsaysay awardee for community leadership.

Kim Im Soon is a revered figure who had been working for orphaned children after the Korean War, a population large y forgot ten in Korea," said the 21 year old English Literature student from over the world. I didn't even ex-



THE NEWLY opened reading room gives the young a chance to meet a well-loved president albeit between the pages of books. - ERKANZAL

Seoul, Korea.

As a prize, Lee got a free trip to the Philippines to meet this year's Magsaysay awardees and visit Magsaysay's native Zambales, where she was also introduced to members of an Aeta tribe.

"My trip here has been an exposure to greatness. I met people who are acknowledged experts in their respective fields from all

the Ewha Woman's University in pect to win," said Lee, whose essay had become part of a birthday present to the beloved late presi-

(Entry to the reading room is free, but others who prefer to walk through the Museong Pambasa before dropping by the reading room would have to pay P60 to get in The Museo is located along Roxas Boulevard a short walk from the US Embassy and

5 perish in Caloocan, Pasig fires

By Tina G. Santos and Luige A. del Puerto

FIVE people, including three children, were killed after they were trapped inside their houses in the cities of Caloocan and Pasig yesterday and Friday

The victims in Caloocan, who were charred beyond recognition, were identified as Mayang Lao, 36, and her children Tomtom, S, and Tonton, 7, and Januae Kho, 3, all of Interior A. de Jesus corner Edsa, Caloocan City.

Arson investigators said the victims were inside their rooms when the fire hit the two-story, 10-door apartment building owned by Benjamin Kho, 42.

The fire, which lasted for an hour, started at 9 a m and originated from the unit occupied by Rosalie Jamilla, 27, mother of

victim Kho. Prior to the incident, Jamilla left her daughter sleeping inside their unit, reportedly to buy something from the nearby ed candle, began

market, probers said

Authorities estimated the damage to property at about P5 mul. on

At the Lusong Compound in Barangay Pinagbuhatan, Pasig City, relatives forgot about 31year-old Rodolfo Oriz when they fled a fire that bit their community at 7.25 p.m.

Orus was reportedly sleeping on the second floor of their house when the blaze, believed to have been sparked by a light-



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Charles williams possible

MATCH, SPORTE: 2004 F1 Buigher Grand Prix Highlights, 10 p.m., Siar Sports—Holive the best racing moments from Belgium. MQLF: LPGA State Farm Classic, tomorrow at 3 a.m., ESPH—WIR-

Schodulas subject to change without prior notice.

LUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2004

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER



E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.pl

Editor Teddyvic S. Melandros

Rosales fires 65, climbs to third

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois—Filipino Jennifer Rosales continued her upsurge in the LPGA State Farm Classic Friday, firing a 7-under-par 65 and climbing to third place after two rounds of play at the Rail Golf Course.

Propped up by her ace-spiked 68 opener, Rosales managed to gain on paceaetter Cristina Kim, who shot a 66, with an 11-under 133 total. Kim was 16-under at 128.

Going out with a 34 following birthes on holes 1,4 and 8 against a bogey on the par 3 No. 7, Rosales turned hot on the backside. She birthed hoies 10, 12, 13, 15 and 16 for a 31 that moved her closer to Kim.

Cristie Kerr surged into contention, matching her career-best with a 9-under 63 to get to 12-under 132. After three birdies on the front side, she eagled the par-5 15th and added four birdies on the back rune.

Norway's Suzann Pettersen closed out her round by holing a bunker shot for a second straight 67 that left her fourth at 134.

Lorena Ochos, coming off a victory at last week's Wachovia Classic, shot a 5under 67 and was in a four-way tie at 9 under. Defending champion Candie Kung is in a three-way tie at 8 under.

Kim, a second-year tour player who has hed for sixth twice this year, is on a record pace. Her two-round total of 16 under is the lowest 36-hote score on the tour this year, bettering the 14 under posted by Jill McGill ast week. The total easily topped the tournament's two-round record of 13 under, held by four players, including King.



FENNIFER Rosains chips out of the sand bunker of the ninth fairway during the second round of the LPGA State Farm Classic.

Kim is also on pace to better the tournament record of 21 under, set by Kate Golden in 2001

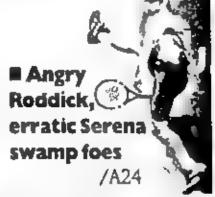
Kim believes she could have posted unother 62 on Friday, but the warm weather that followed a 45-minute morning fog delay caused some distractions.

The 20-year-old Kim, who is looking for her first win on tour, held the lead at one other event. She shot a 65 in the Chick-fil-A Chanty Championship, but a second-round 74 knocked her out of contention. She has missed the cut five times and finished 37th or worst in five other events in 2004.

AP



Archers
shoot
down
Maroons
/A26







Zamora thwarts Ong, leads nat'l jr taekwondo finalists

RUSSELLE Jean Zamora beat event sponsored by Samsung with Karen Ong of Bulacan in sudden death to lead two other Negros Tackwondo Union bets to the championship round in the junior division of the Samsung Best of the Best National Taekwondo Championships at the Glorietta Activity Center in Makati City, Friday.

Zamora and Ong fought to a 3-3 score in the first two rounds but the NTU Tiger outbut Ong in their playoff to forge a showdown with Al-DA's Sheena Mae Perlas for the welterweight crown. Perias outclassed Jenefer Tayag of Zamboenga, 5-2, in their sems duel.

Elmie Rose Baradas trouncing Kimberly Menchaves of San Beda, 2-1, to set up a clash with Jessica Joy Ballesteros for the featherweight title. Baliesteros, playing out of Cavite, drubbed Michelle Hornores of Rizal High School, 4-1.

Meanwhile, hostilities in grade school division were being played at press time with the finals of both the juniors and 13-under categories to be played today starting at 10 a.m. A grand tackwordo demonstration will be held at 4 p.m., according to the organizing IMG.

Rubilyn Mapa, also of Negros, Two other NTU Tigers advanced defeated Geraldine Agaton, also of to the finals in women's play of the Rizal HS, 4-2, to gain a crack at the-

MICROVAN

TRUCKS - HEAVY EQUIPMENT - MISG. ITEMS

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lightweight gold. She faces Kathleen Kaye Roble of Cagayan de Oro, who routed Therese Banayo of Rizal HS, 3-0.

Others advancing to the finals of the 14-17-year-old class were Cristina Paye Ongput of Clarkfield and Rotrice Ashlie Lavaian of UE, who will dispute the finweight crown, Cathy Jane Hampec of Zamboanga and Kristie Jane, Manapsal of AIDA, who will clash for the flyweight title; Gernelyn Aranzanso of La Salle and Monica Dianelo of Clarkfield, who will fight it out for the bantam plum; and Jan Ross Pacquing and Kathleen Valenzuela of Bulacan. who will vie for the middleweight

15th Philtobo Championship slated Oct. 17

THE CREME de la creme of local horse racing are set to converge at the Sta. Ana Park on Oct. 17 as the Philippine Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Organization (Philtobo) stages the 5th Phitobo Grand Championship Day, highlight event of the weeklong Philtobo Championship Racing Festival.

Six divisional championship races are set to be disputed for the annual Philtobo Grand Champsonship Day, bannered by the Mittel Cup 2YO Colts and 2YO Fillies Futurity Championships, the Philtobo 3YO Colts and 2YO Filies Championships for Triple Crown trail veterans, the centerpiece Phistobo Classic for seasoned stakes campaigners, as well as the Philtobo Imported Race for foreign-bred gallopers.

Past winners of the Philtobo Championship Races include Wind Blown, Silver Story, Golden Ballet, High Octane and Empire King.

Staged yearly in honor of Philtobo's founding chair—the late Speaker Ramon "Monching" Mitra, the twin-bill Mitra Cup Futurity Championship Races for 2-yearolds are made exclusive for nominated graduates of the Philtobo Horse Shows—an annual racing broodstock sale and expo for localbred yearlings initiated by braunchaid of Speaker Matra.

The 7th edition of the Philtobo Horse Show has been scheduled for Nov. 15 at the Santa Ana Park and will showcase more than a hundred select yearlings.

"We would like to invite all racing fans to support the staging of the 5th Philtobo Championship Racefest on Oct. 12 to 17, as well as the 7th Phutobo Horse Show on Nov. 15," said Philtobo president Bienverado "Nonoy" Nües Jr.



AT DAMES AND STREET OF

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Race 8-1 Field Star 2, Whistle Blown 3, That's My Tiger 4. Bronie

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ice 16-1 Golder Cat 2 imposable Drawn 3. Micuat's Pat 4. Well Noted

cace 11-1. Aya's Drawn 2. The Fox 3. Benjon Boby 4. Palm R Off

Race 12-1 Montezurist 2 Boood Admiral

Flace 13-1 Intercretate 2 Paul Chiere 3, Gets 4, Diun/Parest Moz 5, Cochrose 6, Syterion Est

PATTY Silva of NCR (left) tries to fake off Joans Sabid of Hoile during yesterday's semifinals.

Davao, NCR XIS forge title clash

By Musong R. Castillo

POWERHOUSE Davao and an NCR side made up of girls playing in a women's tournament yesterday defeated separate foes to arrange a title clash for the 2004 PFF-SuperFerry National Football Championship.

Not even a mudded field caused by a heavy afternoon, downpour at the Marikina Sports Center could slow down the two pre-tournament favorites as Davao tripped Dumaguete, 3-1, and NCR apended floilo, 4-2.

NCR, whose players are in their mid-teens, got two goals from striker Clarissa Lazaro as the team bounced back from 0.1 down to march into the championship match against the Davaoeñas

Davao had an easier time, grv-

Fistorama on

"SAMSUNG'S Fistorama" fea-

tures the championship match

between Jerry Pahayhay and Jun

Eraham for the RP flyweight divi-

non title today. The 12-round

bout at 112 lbs was held at the

Angono Municipal Gym in An-

weekly in the United States, Europe,

Australia, Japan, the Middle East

and other parts of the world through

Samsung's Fistorama is aired

ABS-CBN's Pinoy Central TV

at 2 p.m., Sundays on RPN 9.

The popular boxing show is aired

gono, Rizal recently.

me up only its second goal in the seven-day tournament co-organized by the PFF and the Marikina City Football Association and backed by Mayor Marides Fernando and the city government.

Composed of the nucleus of reigning UAAP champion La Salie, NCR goes into the 3 p.m. contest today as the underdog with Davao parading a roster that has six former national players.

"We will be going up against a very strong team," said NCR coach Hans Smit. "But my team worked hard to be in this situation, and Dayno will have to play its hardest to beat us."

Dumaguete actualty stayed in step with Davao, and keeper Dananne Rabaya even densed a pena.ty shot awarded the Davaoeñas in the 21st minute by referee Randolf Estrimos for an unisportsmanlike cali on Louelia Amamio

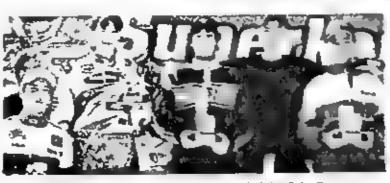
The event, which is also being

used by the Philippine Football Federation to discover potential talents for the National team for the SEA Games next year, is also supported by adidas, Red Ribbon, Petron, New Pageor, Unicef and Aboitiz Express.

Rona Espinosa of Iloilo defied the NCR goalie in the 17th minute and it looked like the Negrenses were going to dictate the pace of the match until the Big City booters went to attack mode without

NCR scored three straight goals in a six-minute span, with Lazaro bitting the mark in the 38th and 42nd minute that sandwiched an Elisa Benitez marker in the 40th.

Monica Santos won out in a mad scramble in the 50th minute. eventually rounding out scoring with a left-footed strike from close range that restored a two goal lead for NCR after Signed Pills made it 2-3 in the 47th.



BIG WIN FOR GUIDICELLI. Mattee Guidicelli of the Cebu Racing Group (center) topped the premier Open class recently in the fifth leg of the 2004 Shell-PCSO Superlearting Series at the Batangas Racing Circuit. From left are fourth-placer Indy Villaion of Birel-Fila, runnerup Michelie Burngarner of M&M Racing, third-placer Allan Uy of Biral-Fila and Marion Stockinger.

Tourney ushers in Golf Show

FOR the third straight year, the Golf Distributors Association of the Philippines (GDAP) will hold an invitational tournament to usher in its annual Philippine International Golf Show 2004 project.

The tournament is set on Sept. 27 at the plush Manila Golf Club course with the Golf Show, the annual trade exhibit for related businesses in the golf industry organized yearly by GDAP in coordination with exhibit manager Fairs & More, to be held on Oct 8-10 at the SM MegaMall in Mandaluyong

mundo said the 18-hole tourna ment will also raise funds for the várious projects of GDAP

Invited to join are executives and guests of participating brands in the Golf Show like Callaway, adidas Taylor Made, Mizuno, Nike, Wilson and Be-

Randy Rana, tournament chair for the GDAP Invitational, said this year's event promises to be the biggest since its introduction two years ago

Each hole, according to more.com.ph.

GDAP president Gerald Ray- Rana, will have a different sponsor which is also a Show exhibitor and a special con-

Part of the exhibit roster are newly developed goif resorts, travel packages and corporate giveaways. The Philippine Turfgrass Association will organize turf-related seminars during the

For details, visit the event website: www.philippineinternationalgot/show.com or cal-FMI at 759-6680 or 845-1324 or email golfshow@fairsand-

Eagle Ridge Invt'l set at Faldo, Norman courses

THE SECOND edition of the Eagle Ridge Invitational, the member-guest golf tournament of the country's biggest golf club in Gen. Trias, Cavite, will be held on Sept. 25-26 at its Feldo and Norman courses

Supported by Nissari Commonwealth Inc. Globe Plaunum and CIGI Insurance, the event is expected to be as fun-filled and exciting as the

Nissan Commonwealth will be giving away three of the best-seiling Nissan X-Trails for the event. Two of the X-Trails worth more than a million pesos each will be at stake as hole-in-



capping the tourney.

JAMES Balagtas one prizes while the third will be driven home. by a lucky ticket hokler after the grand raffle

Globe Platmum and CIGI General Insurance

tourney to be participated in by no less than 200 member guest teams at Eagle Ridge, which is a joint venti re project of Alsons Land Corp. and Sta. Lucia Realty.

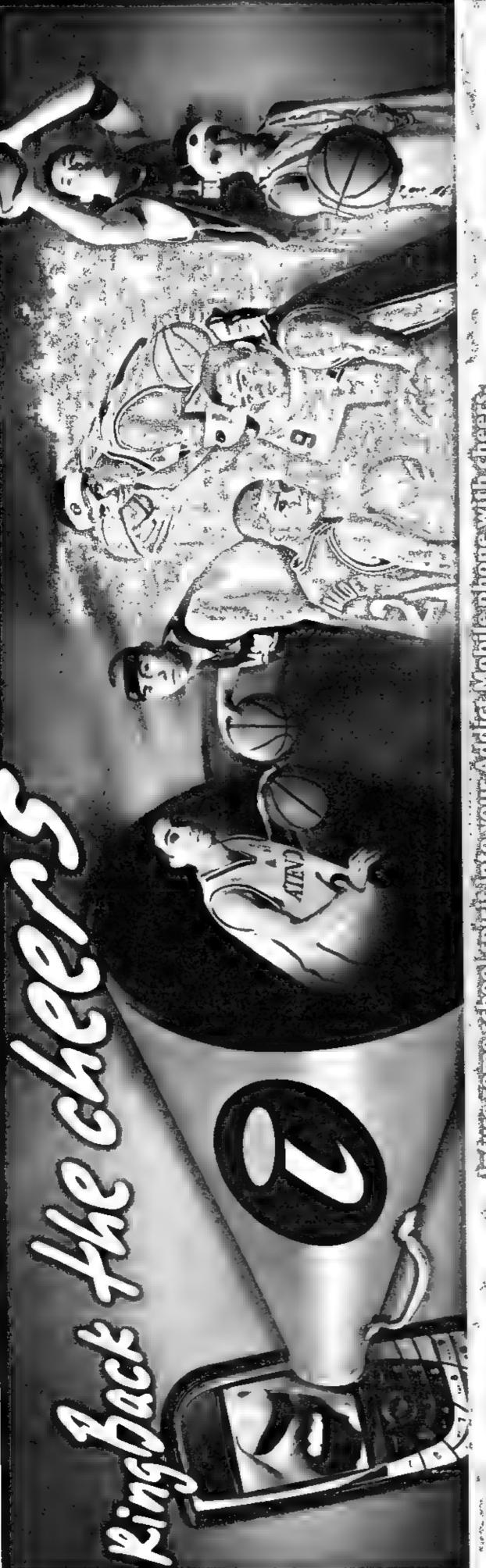
Corp. are also boosting the prize package of the

Through its president and CEO Edwin Celino, ClGl will award a P100,000 cash prize to the player who scores an ace on designated hoses.

Petron and Samsung are also coming in as major backers

Couno and James Balogtas, general manager of Eagle Ridge, signed the sponsorship agree-





Salah Selection

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Shell trades Hrabak for Purefoods' Sotto, keen on acquiring Adducul

By June Navarro

SHELL continued to solidify its frontline by adding rookie Irvin Sotto into the Turbothargers' roster yesterday in a one-onone swap that sent the streak-shooting Mike Hrabak to the Purefoods TJ Hotdogs, and is looking for new ways to pry Romel Adducul free from Ginebra.

Sotto, a 6-foot-7 inside operator out of St. Francis of Assist College, will beef up the Turbochargers in the middle along with the 6foot-6 Marlon Legaspi, who was earlier acquired from San Miguel Beer.

The Turbochargers again opened the door for a possible trade involving Romel Adducul of the Fiesta Conference champions Kings, a source told the INQUIRER.

Turned down on its unitial offer, Shell will try to come out with a more palatable proposal just to snag the 6-foot-6 Adducul, the source added.

In the meastime, Legaspi and Sotto will take turns relieving resident center Billy Mamaril in marining the slot, the Turbochargers' most vulnerable spot since they won the 1999 PBA All-Filipmo Cup through the exploits of Benjie Paras and Victor Pablo.

"Tru excited to play for Shell. I hope to develop my skills further under the tutelage of coach Leo (Austria)," said Sotto, selected seventh overall by the TJ Hotdogs in this year's rookie draft.

Somo played for Austria at Welcoat Paints and Shark Energy Drink during his four-year stint in the Philippine Basketball League.

It was Austria, one of the most feared shooters during his prime in the PBA, who molded Sotto into a player complete with a variety of moves inside the paint and a deadly shooting touch from three-point range.

The Turbochargers have absorbed the remainder of Sotto's two-year contract with the TJ Hotdogs, whose bench got fortified with the acquisition of the veteran Hrabak.

Picked second overall by the Turbochargers in 2001, the 6-foot-7 Hrabak will further augment the TJ Hotdogs' array of shooters with his almost flawless outside shooting. Purefoods coach Ryan Gregorio could also utilize Hrabak to complement Jun Limpot and Kerby Raymundo in the shaded lane.

Hrabak, who is having a vacation in Hong Kong, has yet to be informed of the trade.

Gregorio was satisfied with the deal, even if it hasn't solved his need for a legitimate center just yet.

Right now, with the difficulties we're having finding a center, we're just looking to surround that vacancy first before filling it," said the 2001 Governors Cup champion coach.

Hrabak, despite his size, plays the small forward position and is known more for his perimeter game than his post play.

"He will give us a lot of offense. Having watched him play for Shell, we felt that he will help us a lot in scoring," said Gregorio, who added that Hrabak's experience will also

"He'll give us a lot of maturity. He's one of those guys who hasn't been in the league that long yet but already has a lot of experience."



SPORTSWATCH

BAP sets under-18 women's tryouts

THE BASKETBALL Association of the Philippines (8AP) will be holding tryouts for the composition of its Junior Women's National Team at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum starting on Sept 6. Tryouts are scheduled from 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Qualified to join are women basketball players aged 18 years old and below (born not earlier than 1986). Interested players may contact Neth Mendoza at 5242522. Players to be chosen in the tryouts will be included in the BAP's national pool, or may even land outright slots to the national team to be sent by the basketbal association to the 17th Fiba Asia Championship for Junior Women on Oct. 15 to 21 in Shenzhen, China. Estrellita Enriquez will be the head coach. She will be assisted by Shellalyn Gabagat and former national player Raymond Celis.

Cuesta rules Pika Kids Karting

AYRTON Cuesta, a third grader from Lourdes School-Quezon City, topped the Cadet 60-TRS Pika Kids Karting finals last Sunday in the fifth leg of the Sheil Superkarting Series at the Batangas Racing Circult. Cuesta, named after the Brazilian F1 (egend Ayrton Senna, fin-Ished the 9-lap race in 16 minutes 38.259 seconds, or just 0.1 second ahead of Ton Joson. TRS driver Rafae: Benito came in third. The victory was the fourth in five outings for Cuesta, who is backed by OC Autosports, Basics, Microtel, Lote Dad's Café and Quirino Water. A son of race car driver and engine tuner Dominic Cuesta of QC Autosports, Questa finished second to TRS driver Kahlit Demalsip in the opening heat heid Saturday afternoon. Heeding the instructions of his fathercoach, Guesta stayed focused in the second heat and finished first to earn the pose position for the finals. Cuesta had his first taste of international competition in the 2004 Asian Karting Zona Championships.

Blue Eagles Halikinu Radio guests

ATENEO Blue Eagles Chris Tiu, Martin Quimson and Ford Arao, the Ateneo Law School Debate Team, and the Ateneo Cheerdancers are the special live studio guests on Halikinu Radio on Nil 107.5 FM, 9 p.m. tomorrow. Hallking Radio, which is hosted by PBA sportscaster Mico Ham, airs every Monday and is presented by Smart in cooperation with Avia. The weekly show is also supported by Close-up, Welfpac Mobile, i-Pod. Palm One, Spoofs Limited, Power Station, 90 Proof and



FOOTBALL SCHOLARS: John Francis Samson (left) and Mark Anthony Caballes with Butuan-Agusan Norte Football Association president Tito Clemente after being awarded scholarships

By Banca

Firebird paces NCA 7-stag derby

THE FRONT-RUNNING Firebird entry of hotel er-sportsman Bibby Enriquez is among the top favorites in the National Cockers Association (NCA) 7-Stag Derby scheduled Tuesday and Thursday, Sept. 7 and 9, at the fully air-conditioned Araneta Coliseum. Enriquez, who posted a 6-0 win-loss record during the opening day of Jimater JVL Derby last Tuesday will again field his newest battlecrosses of McLean Roundhead and Sweater Keiso. More than 40 big-time cockers and breeders will see action, among them derby co-host Raymond Velayo, Gov. Ito Ynares, GCAP stalwarts-Sony Lagon, Patrick Antonio and Benjie Lim, Jorge "Nena" Araneta, former Ambassador Danding Cojuangco, Jun Santlago, newspaper publisher Butch Macasaet, Jet Fernando Eddie Araneta, Boy Jiao, Tony Tan, Jun and Rudy Jingco, and Gerry Ramos. Action starts with the 3stag etimination round (60 fights) on Tuesday starting at 5 p.m. All qualitiers will advance to the 4-stag finals on Thursday. Participants are reminded to submit entries on Monday at the Araneta Coliseum green gate, from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. For inquiries, contact 9113101 and 9112928. Meanwhile, NCA president and Governor Ynares announced that this year's Stagfighter of the Year wittner will receive a



ASIAN 14-UNDER SERIES: Philippine Tennis Association president Col. Salvador Andrada (second from right) poses with Futures Tennis Scholarship Foundation president lawyer Alberto Agra for the staging of the Futures Foundation-Asian 14-under Series sponsored by the Australian Open on Sept. 21-25 at the Ynares Socio-Cultural Sports Complex in Pasig City. From left, Philta secretary general Romeo Magat, executive vice president Manuel Misa, Agra, Andrada and youth development officer Ajay Pathak.

SEMIFINALS CAST COMPLETE

OSEPH You of La Solle

Archers shoot down M

GAMES TODAY (Philisports Avera) 11:30 a.m.—NL vs Ateneo (Jrs)

2 p.m. -NL vs Ateneo (Srs) 4 p.m.—UST vs FEU (Srs)

By Jasmine W. Payo

A SALLE just dealt the University of the Philippines a bitter taste of reality.

The Archers will be trooping to the Final Four and the Maroons are not, after a 70-52 win snapped UP's six-game wirming streak and climmated it from further contention in the 67th UAAP senior basketball tournament yesterday at the Philsports Arena.

Guard Joseph Yeo led La Salle with 22 points, including 12 m the third quarter when the Archers seized command.

"We really prepared for it. I think we're getting our rhythm and we anticipated their physical ballgame," said coach Franz Pumaren after La Salle improved to 9-4, just half a game behind co-leaders Ateneo and Far Eastern.

La Salle thus booked as 11th straight Final Four appearance and finalized the semifinal cast, with the University of the East Warriors taking the fourth slot.

"It's just like giving UE a red-carpet treatment. I deserve a good dinner," Franz, whose father, Pilo, is an alumnus of UE and brother, Dindo, is the

But even though UE coach Dindo got help from his brothes, the Warriors also did their part by busting the Adamson Falcons, 57-53, to climb

"We had a bad start, but luckily, it's still a win. Whatever happens, getting eight wins is already a big achievement for us," said Dindo, a rookie coach whose young team did not ment the attention of the addsmakers during the pre-sea-

La Salle jumped the gum on the Maroons, closmg out the first period with a 21-11 lead before being threatened, 37-33, midway in the third period.

But a 12-3 bomb put the Archers firmly back on top, 49-36, as they made the most out of 14 UP turnovers in the final two periods. La Salle made a total of 18 points out of 35 total errors by the Maroons.

UE also held on to fourth spot in junior play after the Pages drubbed the Baby Falcons, 82-65.

Third game (Ses)

LA SALLE 70-Yeo 22, Cardona 11, Cabalu 11, Tang 10, Malerhoffer 5, Gaco 3, Villanueva 2, Gavino 2, Caslo 2, Benitez

UP 52-Cervantes 11, David 10, Ibañes 10, Santos 6, Ferrer 5, Quebral 4, Almeda 4, Agbayani 2, Gomez D, Bienvenida D, Buyco O, Epres O.

Quarters: 21-11, 31-26, 52-42, 70-52.

jay Enrile, will miss the Final Four of the NCAA senior basketball tournament after he was slapped a onegame suspension for allegedly choking San Sebastian's Leo Najorda in their game last Friday.

LETRAN Knights' main man, Rou-

Letran, though, is reportedly set to file an appeal. Enrile was also suspended last July after he allegedly spat at Perpetual Help's

Enrile barred from Final Four

enjoying a twice-to-beat advantage

in the semifinals. One loss ag ir No. 2 Philippine Christian Univerty will eliminate Letran

Letran turned to the Juda court last month to ...ft the surprise Unlike last year, Letran won't be sion of forward Frederick Ri Jasmine W. Pa-

Always the person

THE ONLY formula I know for us to win a gold medal in the 2008 Benjing Olympics is to enter in events that we have the strongest chances to win-These are boxing, taekwondo, weightlifting, athletics and swimming. Even gymnastics. Cycling, too. OK, because Jasmin Figueron showed promise in Athens, let's include archery. And why not shooting, too?

Of the six events that we participated in in Athens, tackwondo, boxing and archery showed some ray of hope. But shooting, athletics and swimming? Purgatory.

Before we left for Athens, it was in boxing, as usual, that we had heavily pinned our chances on. That's because, even as we were shut out in Sydney, the three Olympiads preceding Sydney produced bronze-bronzesilver in Seoul '88, Barcelona '92 and Atlanta '96, respectively.

Boxing failed in both Sydney and Athens due to grievous errors from corner men, if not due to officials' lastminute meddling in strategy as what

had been widely perceived in Athens when Harry Tanamor went for the body in his second fight-a move that completely contrasted to his headhunting style, which was his forte.

Tackwondo got bad breaks in Sydney. But in Athens, well, biased scoring did our Mary Antomette Rivero in. Rivero loss a crucial match to a Greek and, no matter what the world will say, we will always insist our 16-yearold ber fell victim to a hometown deci-

You think we've seen the last of hometown decisions in Athens?

Think agam, fellas.

It will happen agam, In Benjing in 2008, in Paris, London, New York, Toronto or Madrid in 2012 and for as long as the Olympiad lives. A hometown decision is as old as weed, as pernicious as prostitution, as indispensable as a barnacle

In a morning interview over RMN 558 a while back, I told Rene Jose and Rev Pacheco of "Doble Banda" fame that government, the private sector



and the athlete are the surefire secrets to a first Olympic gold for the country. Without this triumvirate, the dream for an Olympic gold will always remain that way, a dream.

This isn't new. And everybody can claim this is his/her idea.

However, the way this surefire secret is being treated, handled or implemented is wrong from the day it

was discovered. For example, athletes themselves view the secret in an extremely selfish, if not twisted, manner

Look, many athletes have the habit of blaming government maction for their setbacks. Lack of money, no training support, etcetera, etcetera.

As 1 told 558's Pareng Señor Rey, let's liken our athborn rich His/her father is a penter, maybe, and mother etable vendor. In such a scenliken father and mother at ment and private, they can to much to make their child his/her dream/aim.

Now, the child wants to I lege but pop and mom cau cit much if the child is det he/she will parsue his die He/she will find a job to hel his/her schooling—a self si student in .ayman's term.

If all athletes think that w government and private her sidy and not total support our Olympic gold has been h rim# ago already.

Always, I must insist at's a person. All the rest is but gi as government and private s they've not been giving enou it. The athlete, because he/si cided to embark on somethi



Rubillar, Janiola fight in Mexico today

By Salven L. Lagumbay Contributor

WORLD Boxing Council No. 1 junior fly Juanito Rubillar figures in the biggest fight of his career today as he faces WBC 108-lb king Jorge "Travieso" Arce in a 12-round showdown at the El Toreo in Thuana, Baja California, Mexico-

Another Filipino, Wyndel "Braveheart" Janiola of Cebu, goes up against Mexican Eric Ortiz in another 12rounder that will determine the next challenger to International Boxing Federation junior flyweight champ Victor

A victory by Rubillar (33-8-7, 14 KO's) over Arce (36-3-1, 27 KO's) will give Filipino fight fans something to cheer about, in the light of recent developments that have put universal featherweight king Manny Pacquiao in the dark as to who his next foe will be.



FILIPINO challenger Juanite Rubillar today's battle in Tijunna, Mexico.

"I must take care of Rubillar because the Philippine boxers are strong and good, as we have seen with what happened to (Marco Antonio) Barrera against (Manny) Pacquiao," said Arce, who revealed that he will next seek a unification fight with either the WBA or IBF champ, in yesterday's official weigh-in supervised by Roman Cruz of

the Mexican Boxing Commission.

Both Arce and Rubillar hurdled the 108-lb regulatory weight limit. Third man on the ring for the Arce-

Rubillar tiff is Toby Gibson, while

judges are David Harris, Roy Ovalle, and Gale Van Hoy.

Jamola weighed in at 108.4 lb, while Ortiz tipped the scales at 108.7 also 🔰 during yesterday's official weigh-in for

their IBF eliminator. "I am ready to show my skills in front of Mexican boxing fans. I'm planning a big birthday bash on fight night," said Jantola, who will turn 25 today.

Ortiz, the reigning WBC Fecarbox champ, had earlier assured his local fans of a victory over the Cebu fighter.

IBF championship committee chair Lindsey Tucker, in an interview with this writer, revealed that the third man on the ring for the Janiola Ortiz fight is Pat Russell of California, while the three judges are Fritz Werner and Jose Cobian of California, and a third judge handpicked by the Mexican Boxing Commission, Fight supervisor is Aaron Kizer, a member of the IBF Board of Di-

aroons

Hawks soar

JUST another win. Just another step toward the Naascu basketball title a few doubt it

Like any other day, University of Manila pulled off a methodical 97-72 victory over University of Makati at the Makati Couseum yesterday to stay on track of a projected sweep to the champi-

The Hawks, proving themselves already out of

it was actually UM's 66th straight victory overall in the 4-year-old league, already a record of

UM, many-time intercollegiate champion, is already assured of making the Final Four along with

In fact, UM has yet to lose a game since last year, a testament to the solid basketball prowess of the school steered by De los Santos and couch

and equally reientless under the goal, fashiorung out double-to-double performances that proved

Gomez had 24 points, 12 rebounds and three assists, while Bernados chipped in 20 points and

Hawks improved to 7-1, while Umak fell to 5-4.

 - mangcas 6, Bengulbang 4, Javier 3, Srean 2, Berrios 2, Jacinto 1, N LONGS D.

Quarterix 35-19, 57-36, 73-57, 97-72.

to 66th win

By Marc Anthony Reyes

would eventually wrap up.

this league by their sheer dominance, waylaid the Wizards for their 13th win in as many games, five more victories away from a spotless run to the finais, counting the three elimination games left - and the best-of-three semifinal duel.

sorts in the history of collegiate basketball.

"I know that every team out there will go all out to break that spell, so we (have to) try to be the best every time we are out there on the court." said UM president and owner lawyer Ernesto de los Santos. "Having a 66-0 record is something we would always cherish."

alle host team St. Clare College of Caloocan (10-3). The next round will be a twin senes between the No. 1 team and No. 4, and No. 2 versus No. 3.

Loreto Tolentino. Off guards Jovit Gomez and Gener Bernados proved unstoppable from all corners of the court

too much for the Wizards, who dropped to 8-5.

18 rebounds for the Hawist. It was a twin victory for UM as the Baby Hawks trounced the Baby Wisards, 97-72. The Baby

The Scores. Second Garne Juris

UM 97—Gornez 24, Bernados 20, Deloptrinos 19, Selem 13, Regulado 4, Sentilago 4, Liao 4, Casipit 2, Litorjus 2, Ocampo 2, Payabyab 2, San Diego 2, videnes 0.

UMAK 72-Nograde 22, Margaran 19, Terreray 13, Do-

tene and his/her action te as not nete cars a vegilow Lan and C as in "don't Criticize." governny do so

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> ed a song vy, such pport if h, so be , has de-ROCING K

-maybe

swer to this question: "If I don't earn a college degree who will I blame?" Mostly, they blame their parents. Not one has ever blamed himself/herself.

FASTBREAK, I envy my Ninong Pros Garcia. He now lives happily in his hometown of Mangatarem, Pangasinan, leaving behind a life of "smoke and choke" in the Big City that is Manila Not quite 70 yet but looking like he is in his mid-50s only, Ninong Pros, once the no-nonsense sheriff of Marikma City, now tends to a backyard garden on Zamora Street where he loves to plant bananas and other vegetables "that make afe better and comfortable the whole year round." Cheers, Ninong Pros!



Sunday Sports Angry Roddick, erratic Serena swamp foes

WEARING what she calls a toned-down outlit, Serena Williams makes a return against Tationa Golovin of 4, to advance to the fourth

EW YORK-Andy Roddick scuffed his hand, scuffled with the chair umpire and barely shook hands with Rafael Nadal after defeating the Spaniard, 6-0, 6-3, 6-4, Friday.

Roddick lost his concentration and a bit of his composure-"Watch the damn ball!" he shouted at umpire Andreas Egli-but still beat Nadal to reach the third round.

"There's something about a night session at the Open that kind of gets inside you a little bit," Roddick said.

Serena Wuhams toned down her outfit, saying "an earning malfunction" was partly to blame. Her game also seemed a bit flat, though she beat 30th-seeded Tapana Golovin of France, 7.5, 6-

Williams overcame a 4-1 deficit in the first set and won despite making 42 unforced errors. The two-time Open winner

video screen at Arthur Ashe Stadium.

"I was playing two opponents: her 6-1. and myself," Williams said.

The other favored women also moved on, with No. 2 Frenchwoman Amelie Mauresmo, No. 6 Elena Demenneva of Russia, No. 8 Jennifer Capriati, No. 10 Russian Vera Zvonareva and No. 15 Patty Schnyder of Switzerland winning. So did No. 16 Italian Francesca Schiavone, who eliminated popular American wild card Angela Haynes, 6-3, 7-6 (3)

Capriati took a minute or so longer than she expected to beat Russian teen Vera Douchevina, 6-0, 6-7 (4), 6-3.

Mauresmo defeated Maria Vento-Kabchi of Venezuela, 6-2, 6-0. Dementies va beat France's Nathalie Dechy via a walkover. Zvonareva ousted Fabiola Zuluaga of Colombia, 6-4, 7-5, while Schnyder booted out Daniela Hantuchova of Slovakia, 6-4, 4-6, 7-6 (6).

The men had a much harder time. Last year's runner-up, No. 7 Juan Car-

los Ferrero of Spain, lost to Austria's Stefan Koubek, 7-6 (2), 4-6, 6-7 (6), 6-2, 6-3. Also losing were No. 8 David Nalbandian of Argentina, a semifinalist last year ousted by Russian Mikhail Youzhny, 6-7 (4), 6-4, 7-5, 2-6, 6-4, and No. 12 Senoticed that huge total on the big bastien Grosjean of France, who lost to

German Tommy Haas, 6-4, 6-4, 1-6,

When No. 23 Vince Spadea fell to Austria's Jurgen Melzer, 6-3, 4-6, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, only two US men were left--Roddick and Andre

Agassi. Never before had fewer than three Americans reached the Open's third round. Roddick tied his

Open record with a 152 mph serve, with one rocket catching Nadal in the lip and another that sent the teen tumbling. Roddick skimmed his right hand

when he slipped running cross court. He flexed it a few times later in the match, though he was able to grasp his racket

But Roddick lost his grip after an odd occurrence in the third set.

Roddick hit an overhand from the baseline and as he charged toward the net, an extra ball fell out of his pocket and nicked him in the heel

Egli took a moment before calling a let--it was the right call--but Roddick let the umpire have it.



Big dreamer breaks world record-again Basilides

BRUSSELS, Belgium-Pole vaulter Yelena Isinbayeva of Russia and steeplechaser Saif Saaeed Shaheen of Qatar set world records at the Van Damme Memorial on Friday.

Isinbayeva set a world record for the second time in as many weeks and improved on the mark she set to win the Olympic title by one centimeter for a record height of 4.92 meters. It was her fifth record in two months.

"I want to be a legend," she said. "I like people to talk about me."

Shaheen, kept out of the Olympics because of a nationality switch from his native Kenya, set a world record in the 3,000-meter steeplechase of 7 minutes, 53,63 seconds, smashing the old mark of 7:55.28 ser by Moroccan Brahim Boulami three years ago in Brussels.

Felix Sanchez's three-year winning streak in the 400 hurdles also ended when he was forced to abandon the race halfway through, apparently with a left thigh injury. It also threw the Dominican world and Olympic champion out of contention for the \$1 midon Golden League jackpot.

South African high jumper Hestrie Cloete also lost a shot at the jackpot when she was beaten by Olympic champion Yelena Slesarenko. That leaves just Olympic 400-meter champion Tonique Williams-Darling of the Bahamas and triple jump gold medalist Christian Olsson of Sweden to vie for the jackpot at the last Golden

League meet in Berlin next week. Double Olympic champion Hicham El Guerrouj abandoned his world record attempt in the 3,000 before the start, complaining of fatigue and illness.

BANGKOK, Thailand—A Thai sports

fan was struggling with swol en knees

and blistering feet Saturday, haifway

through an epic run in honor of Thai-

land's Olympic gold meda, winning

eastern town of Rayong, set off Wednes-

day to fulfil, a vow that he would run

from his home to that of any Thai boxer

Thailand's only boxing gold was

won by Manus, who lives in the south-

western town of Ratchaburi, about

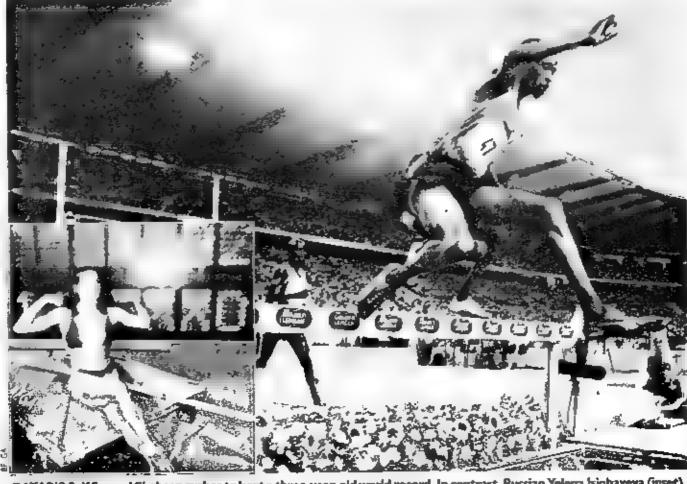
400 kilometers (250 miles) by road

Uthen Theekayu, 41, a waiter in the

boxer Manus Boonjamnong.

to win an Olympic gold medal.

from Rayong.



QAYAR'S Saif Saaced Shaheen rushes to beat a three-year-old world record. In contrast, Russian Yelena Isinhayeva (inset) coolly poses after shattering the pole vault mark five times in the last two months.

Capping a night of excitement for on her last jump. the sellout crowd of 47,000 at the King the show again, missing twice at the

The crowd went delirious when Baudoum Stadium, Isinbayeva stole she shouted "I love you," over the public address system then danced record height before easily clearing it round the track to Tina Turner's "Sim-thrusting his finger in the air.

ply the Best,"

When Shaheen was far ahead with 50 meters remaining, he began celebrating near the top of the straight by

lifts Ozamiz with jumper

OZAMIZ CITY-Ex-pro Rollie Balisides knocked in an off-balance jumper in the last 2.2 seconds to lift Ozamiz City past Spring Cooking Oil-backed Laguna Spring, 68-67, Friday night in the crossover phase of the NBC (National Basketball Conference) national championship at the Gov. Angel Medina Sz. gym here.

The 6-foot-3 forward fumbled at the top of the key before eluding the defense of Mike Garcia to score the winning basket to the joy of the parti-

The team of NBC president Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla and Gov. Teresita "Ningning" Lazaro suffered its fifth loss in 11 games in the tournament backed by Panasonic, Spring Cooking Oil, PCSO, Sulpicio Lines, Nature's Spring Mineral Water, Cebu Pernes, Air Philippines, Supercat, Skygo Motorcycles, Trans-Asia, Accel and Moiten.

Former Purefoods point guard Egay Echavez made three technical freethrows and a layup to give Mayor Reynaldo Parojinog's Cotta a 45-40 lead. He finished the game with 27 points.

UA-P snaps two-game losing skid

UNIVERSITY of the Assumption-Pampanga snapped a two-game losing skid yesterday when it turned back Emilio Agumaldo College, 53-45, in the WNCAA 35th season at the

St. Scholastica gym The UA-P Lady Pelicans last won on August 21, 61-35, over Siena College of Quezon City but lost their succeeding assignments to defending champion College of St. Benilde and newcomer

Centro Escolar University The win gave UA-P a 2-2 card while EAC absorbed its fourth serback in as many games.

UA-P will try to notch its third win today when The athletes also became instant mil- it meets St. Scholastica's College in the first semors game at 12:30 p.m.

Minam College and De La Salle Zobel, mean-

Mmam stopped St. Stephen's High School,

AP 85-41, while DLSZ downed St. Scho, 69-60. Paragua boosts bid for 2nd GM result

In Sisaket province, a relative of centives by the government. "We will not stop here," said Maj. while, remained unbeaten in three gaines in the Wandee Khamaim, a woman, bronze

Malamuk of Ukraine.

Barry Bonds of the San Francisco Giants hits career home run No. 697 against the Arizona Diamondbacks. The Giants swatted the Diamondbacks, 18-7.

telephone that he runs about six to eight cars but he refused. "I have vowed to get there on my feet hours every day and stops for meals. He said he spends the night at bus stops or in highway police stations.

Fan hurts knee and feet to honor Thai boxer

He said he initially planned to reach Ratchaburi within six days, but now figures it will take several days more because of his knee and feet problems.

"I have to fight the pain to reach Manus' house to fulfill my vow, even if it takes several days longer," Uthen said while resting in Bangphakong district, about 50 kilometers (30 miles) east of

Highway police officers escorting

Uthen told The Associated Press via him offered to give him a lift in their

so I have to try," he said. "I cannot get

In its best Olympic showing ever, Thailand won a total of eight medals, including two golds and two bronzes for women's weightlifting, a bronze for taekwondo and a gold, silver and bronze in boxing.

medal winning weightlifter has vowed to dance over a distance of 10 kilometers (6 miles) and offered nine heads of

FILIPINO International Master Mark Paragua

scored back-to-back victories in the Alushta

GM tournament to boost his bid for a Grand-

master result in the coastal town of Crimea in

The 20-year old Paragua won his 9th and

10th round games against GM Sergey Kalygin

of Russia and IM Dimitry Tishin of Ukraine,

respectively, and got back in the hunt for his

Although he needs to score 10.5 points in

this Category IX event for 16 players (15

games), there is a possibility for the young

Paragua to achieve his second GM result if he

could score 1.5 points in his next two games

against GM Ramil Hasangatin of Russia and

the tournament's top seed, GM Vladimir

Alushta, Crimea, Ukraine.

second GM result

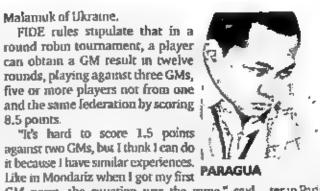
pags at a shrine. Other relatives of That athletes who

won medals have vowed to become Buddhist monks for brief periods. Thailand's eight medals, placed

fourth in the medal rankings among Asian nations after China, Japan and South Korea, triggering a wave of celebrations all over the country.

frongires after being handed out cash in-

Gen. Intharat Yhodbangtoey, who jumors level heads the country's weightlifting as-



Yuriy Kuzubov of Ukrame who has 7.5 points.

"My strategy in the next two games is to play for a win with white against GM Hasangann and force a draw with GM Malanrak," said

Meanwhile, the 1st Mayor Joaquin Chipeco Executive & Expert-Below Chess Clime will take place on Sept. 11 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Riverview Resort & Conference Cen

ter in Parian, Calamba City. Speaker/lecturer FIDE master Jesse Noel Sales will discuss the "Theories of D4 Opening" and 'Play Using NF3 as the First Move." For inquiries: call 0919-7059321. Marlon Bernardino

pion through an e-mail yesterday. Paragua, who three weeks ago won the Genova Open and two blitz tournaments, trails 1M

GM norm, the situation was the same," said

Paragua, the 1998 World Rapid Under-14 cham-

Woods and a guy named Palmer share 1-shot lead

sachusetts—Palmer and Woods. How's that for a leaderboard?

Too bad it's tour rooke Ryan Palmer-not Arnold-sharing the lead with Tiger Woods after one round in the Deutsche Bank Championship. The two shot 6-under 65s Friday on the TPC of

Boston in take a one-stroke lead over Mark O'Meara and two others. "It's been a great ride so far," Palmer

said. "It's been everything I expected. It's unbelievable -- a dream come true."

Palmer, who has missed more cuts (13) than he has made (12) this season, is 130th on the money list and hoping to crack the top 125 to retain his tour card.

Woods needs to finish better than a tie for seventh or he will lose his No. 1. ranking to Vijay Singh.

"It's certainly nice (that) I don't have go out there and shoot a round like this just to try and make the cut," said Woods, who has a first-

> round lead for the first time since he won the 2003 Western Open. He has won eight of the last 10 tournaments when he has led or shared the lead after the first round. "It's nace to be able to actually get off to a positive start like this," he said.

In its second year, changes to the course have drawn positive reviews from players who complained in 2003 about narrow landing areas in the

slopes on the greens. Tournament officials and sponsors are expected to announce over the weekend that they will bring the event back next year.

Woods is a sort of unofficial host of the tournament that benefits the Tiger Woods Foundation, and he has promised to donate his earnings—as much as \$900,000 to the winner-to the charity. He makes the same pledge at the Target World Challenge, where he has won and twice finished second.

Woods was having a good day even before he hit the course Friday O'Meara, Woods' neighbor and tour mentor, was the leader in the clubhouse when Woods teed off in the afternoon

"Any time you have one of your best buds up there top of the board, it's always cool," Woods saxl, "Mark, boy, he's been like a big brother, really."

The 47-year-old O'Meara won in Dubai this year but he admitted he dian't figure to be a threat on the 6,674meter (7,415-yard) course. But he has shown that he still has some golf left in him before he makes the turn to the Champions Tour and a life of fly fishing.

O'Meara was ned with Cameron Beckman and Jonathan Byrd at 5 under. Five were tied at two strokes back and Singh was among 10 tied at 68. Defending champion Adam Scott opened with



STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND



Naga City completes seminar in archery

NAGA CITY-The Bicol regional sisted by Doosung Corporation of recently held an archery coaching and judging seminar.

Sports Commissioner Ambrosio B. de Luna opened the four-day

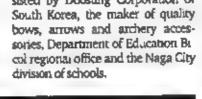
event organized by the Naga City Sports Council and sponsored by Doosung Corporation of South Korea, with 100 participants from various DepEd schools divisions in the Bicol region.

With De Luna were National Archery Association of the Philippines president Lenora Pe S. Brawner, regional DepEd director Dr Teresita D. Naz, and Pedro Lee, who is the council's overa... chair of the host Naga City

Sports Council. The seminar lecturers were Dennis B. Torre of the DepEd Division of Pasig, Ms Mildred M. de Leon of the Calamba Division, Korean archery coach Mun Back Woon, the trainer of the national archery training pool, was also present during

the opening day

South Korea, the maker of quality bows, arrows and archery acces-



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12:18 pm 2:25 pm 4:40 pm 6:55 pm 6:10 pm THE NOTEBOOK 51/00 am 1,30 pm 4;00 pm 6;30 pm 1;00 pm PRINCESS DIARIES 2 1,25 pm 3:55 pm 4:25 pm 4:55 pm

NEW FIESTA CARNIVAL OPEN TODAY 4 PM to 10 PM

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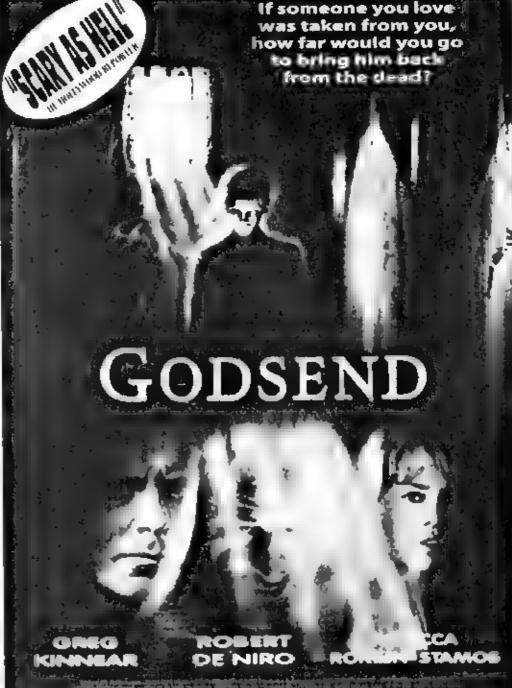
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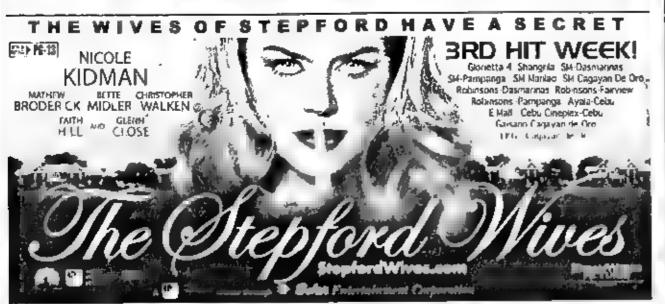
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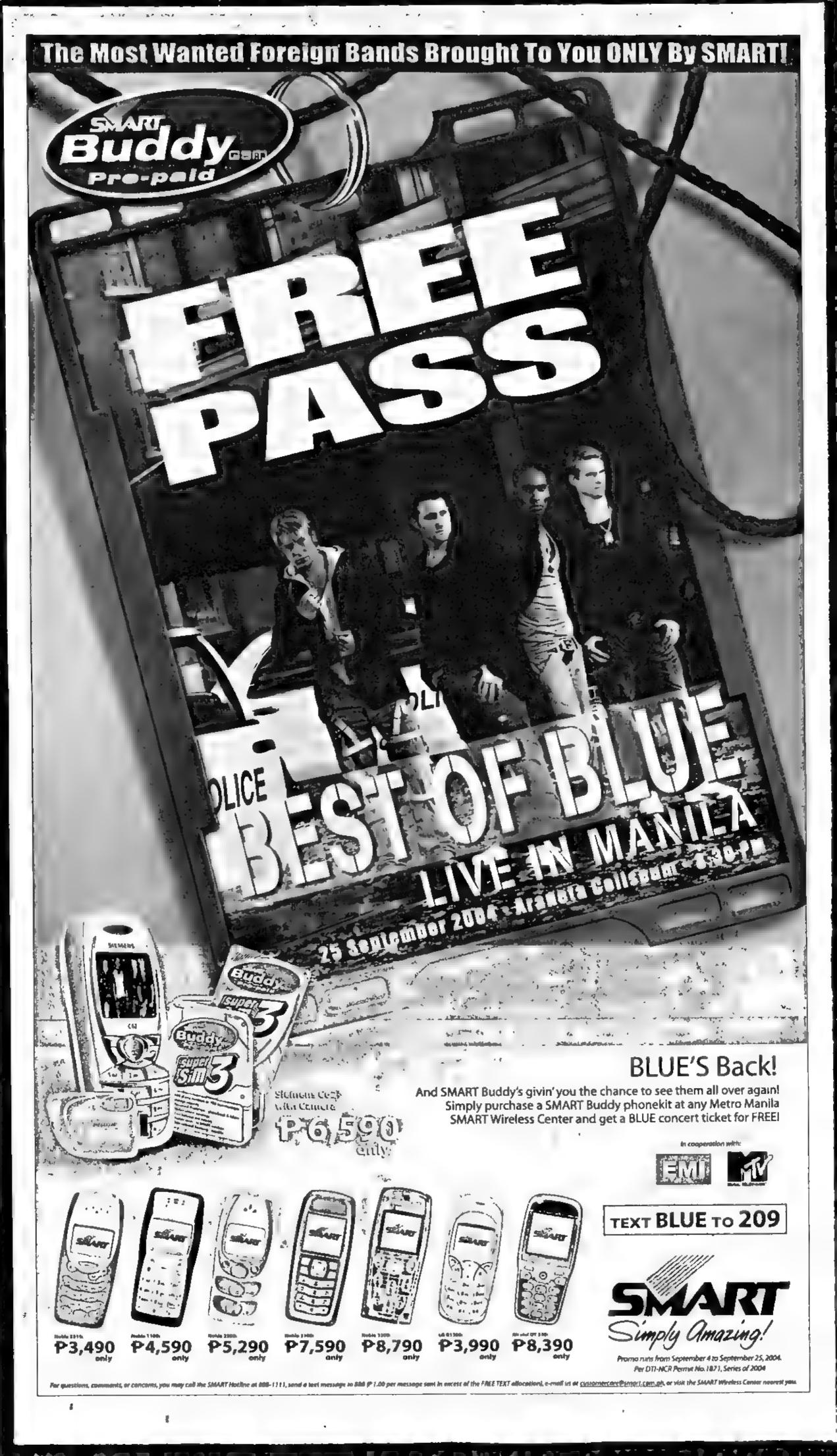
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BUBUHAYIN ANG PATAY SA SEPT. 8 BAWAL MANUOD ANG MGA MAHIHINA ANG SIKMURA PASISIGAWIN KA MULA SIMULA HANGGANG WAKAS.









Editor Louis C. Camino

'Crying Ladies' is RP entry in '04 Oscars

By Leah C. Salterio Contributor

NITEL Pictures' "Crying Ladies," starring Sharon Cuneta and directed by Mark Meily,

has been chosen as the Philippine entry to the Oscars' best foreign language film category next year

Producer Tony Gloria last Aug. 31 received a letter from the Film Academy of the Phi ippines (FAP) informing him of the selection of "Crying Ladies" for the Oscar derby. The FAP selects the official Philippine entry in the Academy Awards.

The letter, signed by FAP director general Leo Martinez, said "Crying Ladies" was picked by the body's selection committee. The film should be submitted with English subtitles to the Academy for Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (Ampas), the organization which hands out the Oscars, not later than

"We are very happy and privileged that 'Crying Ladies' has been chosen as the country's entry in the Oscars," Gloria told INQUIRER Entertainment in a phone interview last Friday. "Our film is the country's best bet to the Oscars and we are competing with the best from around the world. I know it's a long way from landing as one of the finalists, but to be selected is a ready an honor in itself."

"Crying Ladies," Meily's directorial debut, was Unitel Pictures' official entry in last December's Metro Manila Film Festiva. (MMFF), where it bagged five major awards, including

Giona said "Crying Ladies" is now being shown in the Montreal Film Festival's Asian Cinema category, where it is also nominated for the audience award and for first-time film director. The film has been subtitled in English.

"Mark Meily is now in Montreal and he said there's a good crowd watching the film, with lots of foreigners," Gioria offered.

Pusan festival

Filmed with a budget of P20 mulion, "Crying Ladies" has grossed P65 million in the Philippines alone. Through Gloria's marketing and distribution arm, Unico Entertainment, the film has made the rounds of the commercial exhibition circuit in the United States, where it earned good reviews.

At the MMFF last December, "Crying Ladies" also bagged the awards for best supporting actress for Hida Koronel, best supporting actor for Eric Quizon, best child actor for Ja to Pacheco and best director for Meily.

So far, no Philippine film has made it to the finals in the Oscar best foreign language film category. Other local films which have been entered in the category are Tikoy Aguiluz's "Segurista" (1997), Gil Portes' "Gatas . . . Sa Dibdib ng Kaaway" (1999), "Markova: Comfort Gay" (2000), "Saranggola" (2001) and "Mga Munting Tinig" (2003), Manlou Diaz-Abaya's "Sa Pusod ng Dagat" (1998) and Chi to Roño's "Dekada '70" (2002)

Prior to the FAP selection of "Crying Ladies" for the Oscars, Unitel Pictures' upcoming film, "Santa-Santita," was invited to the 9th Pusan International Film Festival in Korea, where it will be shown in the Pusan Promotion Plan

In a letter to Gloria, festival organizers explained that the PPP is a project market for new Asian films. It also allows filmmakers to find co-financiers or co-producers. Last year, more than a thousand professionals from over 35 countries attended the more than 500 meetings in the PPP

P25 million

Unitel's "Santa-Santita," directed by Laurice Guillen, is a modern Magdalene story based on Jerry Gracio's screenplay which won in the Fum Foundation of the Phil ppines' scriptwrit ing competition four years ago. Guiden bought the rights to the winning script,

"Santa Santita" is one of the 23 "outstanding projects" to be introduced at the PPP in Pusan. Gloria and Guillen are flying to the port city of Pusan, Korea, next month to attend the festival

Filmed with a budget of P25 million, "Santa-Santita" stars Angelica Panganiban, who was chosen after a very long search. The other two main stars are Jericho Rosa, es as the devilish young man and Johnny Delgado as a troubled priest

The indic producer said "Santa-Santita" is the first Philippine movie to be shot in Varicam-RD, similar to Michael Mann's "Collateral," which stars Tom Cruise, HD was also the same technique used in the Milo Olympic commercial, which features Olympic athletes such as basketball star Mon Fernandex, swimmer Christine Jacob, gymnast Bea Lucero and taekwondo champion Monsour del Rosario.

"With HD, you can shoot a scene straight

CRYING/A2-2

LUCKY "LADIES." Mark Meily's "Crying Ladies," which hopes to make it to the best foreign language film category in the Academy Awards, is now showing in the Montreal film festival. It stars (from left) Angel Aquino, Sharon Cuneta





s, comments, or concerns, you may call the SMART Holline at 880-1111, send a text message to 888 (P1.00 per message sent in m-Intall as at customercave@smart.cope.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center meanest you. To set GMS settings on your phone, best SEE GMS settings on your phone, best SEE GMS settings To activate GPRS on your phone, text GPRS ON to 333 To set MMS settings on your phone, text SET MMS «phone model» in 211 En. SET MMS 196600) To activate MMS on your phone, text MMS ON to 333, Logos, Pictute Messages, MMS triages, and Tories are P15.00 each. Themes cost P30.00 each Text messages cost P2.50 each



ENTERTAINMENT

GMA 7 questions Adboard move on overloading

By Nini Valera

A NETWORK executive has questioned the move by the Advertising Board of the Philippines (Ad-Board) and its nine member associations to penalize broadcast media suppliers, which are not members of the AdBoard, that are found to be violating the 18minute-per-hour commercial load.

Manuel R Quiogue, president and chief operating officer of GMA 7 Marketing and Productions Inc., is also asking why a statement of concern pertaining to commercial overloading, signed by the AdBoard and its members, has found its way to newspaper columns when nothing has been finalized yet.

The statement of concern, dated July 22, also proposed the adoption of a contractual obligation between the media supplier and the advertiser so "that for any violation by an AdBoard nonmember" of the rule on commercial overloading, "the broadcast media supplier shall pay the advertiser a fine equivalent to the amount of the advertising fee for

the program where the violation was committed, multiplied by the number of excess advertising minutes for the program, plus 20 percent thereof, and further multiphed by the ratio of the total time of the advertisements aired during the said program."

GMA 7 is not a member of the KBR which is an associate member of the AdBoard The network left the Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster ng Pilipinas last year "because we felt their implementation of the rules was uneven," according to Quiogue.

He cited the suspension by the KBP of former "StarTalk" co-host Rosanna Roces last year, and the fining of news anchor Mike Enriquez "for something he did years ago."

"The last straw was the issue on commercial overloading," Quiogue

While he admitted that the network had been going beyond the 18-minute rule, "we will abide with AdBoard's regulation of content," Quiogue said.

"We will honor that because we believe in regulating commercial content. But on the 18-minute limit, what Atty (Felipe) Gozon (GMA 7 president) said was, why is that rule being implemented now and not when ABS-CBN was fording it over the industry? And when they overloaded, why were they not fined?

"Now that GMA 7 has grown stronger (in terms of ratings), that rule is being cited. Where were they when the other side was overloading?_

"So because of that, we said we would rather leave the KBP because we feel it hasn't been fair."

Where did it come from?

Outogue said they also questioned the 18-minute commercial

"Where did that come from? In other countries, it's 12 minutes, 14 minutes. Is there a scientific basis to the (18-minute limit)?"

He said GMA 7 has asked the AdBoard to conduct a study to determine what is the ideal commercial load, taking into consideration the viewers and the ad-

vertusing clutter.

"Whatever the findings of the study, we're willing to abide by these just as long as there's a scientific basis," Quiogue said. "Right now, we don't know where the 18 minutes came from."

was obtained down philosophics and as we will see you in

Signatories

He said the AdBoard agreed to do the study. But GMA 7 still did. not follow the 18 minute rule, Outogue admitted, and loaded commercials for as much as 20 minutes per hour last year.

This year, GMA 7 set an internal limit of 19 minutes for commercial loads.

Last May, GMA 7 and AdBoard met again, Quiogue said.

"They (AdBoard) were concerned," he said. "They said we were the only ones not following the overloading rule. We told them we did not believe in the 18 minutes. We also urged them to do the study. To be honest to them, we also told them that come polit ical season, we would be adding another minute dedicated to political ads. We left it at that.

"Then came this burst of pub-

Berty singling us out. We reminded AdBoard they were supposed to conduct a study."

Quiogue also pointed out that the signatories in the AdBoard's letter of concern had non-broadeast identities. Aside from the KBP the signatories are the Advertising Suppliers Association of the Philippines, Philippine Association of Nationa. Advertisers, Association of Accredited Advertising Agencies, Cinema Advertising Association, Independent Blocktimers Association, Marketing and Opinion Research Society, Outdoor Advertising Association, and the United Print Media Group.

"Our point is we know best how to conduct our business," Quiogue said. "If we overload commercials and we lose viewers, then the advertisers will leave us. So why can't we be the judge of how best to conduct our business?"

Criminal act

He said that since last year, GMA 7's ratings have gone higher than in the previous years, and in-December 2003 and last January,

the network had overtaken the No. 1 rating of ABS-CBN.

"If this overloading of commercials is really hurting our viewers, why have our ratings continued to go up?" he asked, "Is it really hurting viewers? That's our point. At the end of the day, if our load of commercials is already starting to hurt our ratings, then we're definitely not going to take the risk. That's our business. Why would anyone tell us how much to .oad?"

Lawyers of the network had also cited a case in the US where the National Advertising Board lost its case for regulating commercial time on television, according to Quiogue.

In the Philippines, imposing time limit on television commercials is a "restraint of trade and is also a criminal act," according to Quiogue.

That's what our lawyers found out," he claimed. "But we don't want to have to go to court. All we want is for the AdBoard to finish its study and discuss it with us. If the methodology is aboveboard, etc., then we will abide by it."

Outlandish makeovers

NO SOONER had we finished writing our recent appreciation of "The Swan," ending by speculating that a local facsimile wasn't far behind, that Channel 2 started telecasting "Born Diva," which, like "The Swan," involves a "total" makeover of its contestants.

This time, however, the field has been narrowed down to female singers, especially of the birit sort. The makeover factor is simply there to enhance the singers' already considerable talent (and volume).

Compared with "The Swan's" rigorous procedures, the divasearch's mitiatives are more nominal. So, while the "inspiration" is clear, the diva competition effectively strikes out on its own in some of its aspects.

telecast and appreciated its two initial contestants' singing talent. On point of vocal performance, to the show's overly enthusiastic both Shayne Corpuz and Kelly stylists: The "diva" look doesn't

Salcedo were both winners.

But Shayne was chosen over Kelly because her "total packaging" came off better.

Truth to tell, however, we felt Nestor that both singers were poorly served by the makeover they were made to undergo. Shayne's face looked better and her gown effectively added to her allure, but she was given a frizzy, glattery hairstyle that totally upstaged her. Some stylists simply don't know when to stop.

Kelly came off even worse, because her hairstyle, makeup and gown all conspired against her, not a sight for sore eyes, but a sore sight for eyes.

That was a great pity because Kelly had a really good voice, and when she was shown before her We viewed the program's first drastic and unenlightened makeover, she didn't look bad at all.

A word of caution, therefore,

VIEWFINDER

have to be excessively lush and outrageous-and, definitely, nev-

Take a gander at the program's host, Zsa Zsa Padilla. She's a cernfied diva, and yet she doesn't look like a show biz gargoyle. She's a testament to the correctness of the dictum "less is more," and the show's contestants should be packaged more like her than like florid local versions of Diana Ross and Shirley

On point of performance, though, we must caution Zsa Zsa that she sings too often during the show. As the program's host, she should really do only one

number with the contestants and leave most of the singing in the show to them.

We're saying this not because we don't appreciate Zsa Zsa's singing, but as a reminder to her that the show is a singing competition, so the focus should be on the competitors, not the host.

Summing up, we like the high level of singing talent on "Born Diva," but its contestants should be packaged in a much less outlandish fashion, and the show's focus should be on them, above

If these key adjustments are made, the show could become a really rewarding and even exciting viewing treat, and can come up with winners who could give some of our established dives a run for their birit!

'The Maestro & His Music'

CONCERT at the Park at 5 p.m. today features the UST Wind Or-

chestra under professor Hermie Ranera in a program titled "The Maestro & His Music." Soloist is vissting trumpet player Rommei Reyes.

Camille Lopez-Molina

SOPRANO Camille Lopez-Molina is the featured soloist in the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra's "Coming Home" con cert at the CCP on

Sept. 10 She will be performing Samuel Barber's "Knoxville: Summer of 1915," with text by James Agee. Call 8321125, locals 1801 to 1806.

Michelle Ayalde

contestants.

"ASAP Mania" regular Michelle Ayalde's self-titled debut a.bum has eight tracks that showcase her wide vocal range. "Mama-haun Kita, Kahit Na," "Kay Ta gal," "Ayoko Na Sana" and "Isang Ulit Man Lang" are the standout cuts. Michelle is nominated for Best Performance by a New Female Recording Artist in the 2004 Awit Awards, which will be handed out on Sept. 9.

PADILLA. As host, she should leave most of the singing to the

'Eye of the Tiger'

ANIMAL Planet's month-long programming special, "Eye of the Tiger," premieres at 10 p.m. today, Sept. 5, with "The Temple of

the Tigers." The episode tells the remarkable story of 10 That monks who have taken on the task of protecting wild Bengal tigers by offering them a home within the walls of their temple. "The Temple of the Tigers" is the first Asian TV production that will premiere internationally in Asia-Pacific, India, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East.



"SANTA-SANTITA," directed by Laurice Guillen and starring jericho Rosales and Angelica Panganiban, is Unitel's next offering.

'Crying Ladies'.

for more than five minutes without fear of running out of film," Gloria explained. "You can do digital grading on the film differently and manipulate the colors in a certain scene, Like Angelien's dream sequences.

"We do our own post-production because we have the capability and the equipment," he added.

November playdate

"Santa-Santita," which is now in the postproduction stage, could have been one of the official entries in the 2004 MMFF in December, However, Gioria decided not to field any entries this year and to instead show the film on an earlier playdate in November.

"Santa-Santita" follows Guillen's critically secia.med and award-winning films like

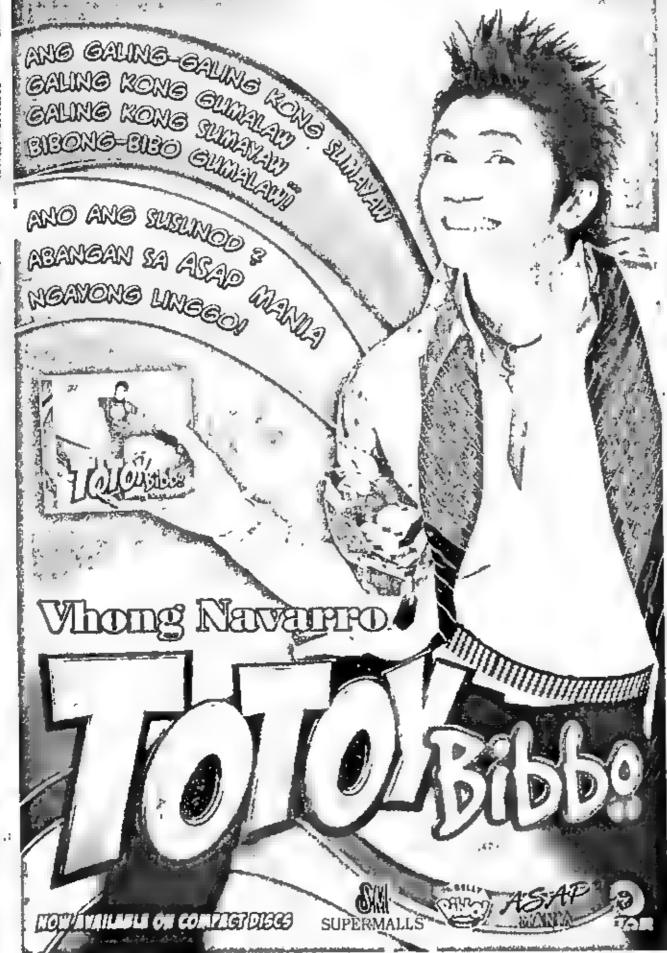
"Tanging Yaman" in 2000 and "American Adobo," also produced by Gloria, in 2002.

After "Santa-Santita," United will produce Merly's "Penitencia Republic" starring Robin Padilla, and the Douphy movie, "Cornedy King," to be directed by Jun Reyes and co-produced with megastar Sharon Cimeta

Gloria is also handling the worldwide distribution of Maryo J. de los Reyes' award-winning "Magnifico" and Ramona Diaz's "linelda," the documentary on the former first lady,

Glona said "Inicida" grossed \$300,000 (P16.5 million) in Manila alone. The documentary is set to be shown in Singapore next

it was also bought by theater art houses in Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg, according to Gloria.



ENTERTAINMENT

Richard Merk finds true OVP

By Joven S. Joya Contributor

RICHARD Merk says he has found his one true love.

"It has given me a purpose in life and it makes the music in my heart play with much depth now," he says.

The prince of jazz is re- STOPPER Larry's Bar. ferring to his family, his wife Roni, and their 3-1/1-yearold daughter Manna.

Once hounded by rumors that grew darker in the telling and countless retelling, Richard admits that during the early years he had spent singing with bands, "I performed just to survive for one day. I really didn't care about what the next day would bring."

After marrying the former Roni Tapin in December 1999, he started singing a different time. "I live to take care of my family," he says. "In my wife I've found my anchor. And the arrival of our daughter has made my life complete.

"I take care of Manna in the day time when Rons does her corporate work (as Bank of Pl. vice president for corporate communications). I sing Manna to sleep and when I look at her face, I feel a fullness in my life. It's magic."

He doesn't regret having gone through the wild and wooly days of his youth. "It happened for a purpose," he says. "I cannot forgive myself if I let it happen now that I'm raising a family."

Be thankful, share

The singer speaks with hardearned maturity when he says everyone is blessed, "If you feel you're not blessed now, you will be, tomorrow or in the next days, weeks, months or years," he says. "Wait. Have faith in God and your blessings will surely come your way." And when they finally do, he advisk. es the recipient to learn to appreciate them. "Be thankful for them and let them grow so you may share them."

He says he's a living example of what he's saying, "Many believed I would not recover," he says. "I did, not fast, but I recovered." His wife, he says, makes sure he won't ever go astray again. The couple are now active leaders of All for Jesus Marriage Encounter, a sector of the Tuklasan Marnage Encounter Foundation of the Philippines which provides venues for married couples and families to "rediscover, renew, enhance and invigorate the depth of munial commitment among families and married Christians based on an 'All for Jesus-centered' encounter.

Richard recalls he was wandering aimlessly when he accidentally bumped into Roni at Larry's Bar on Adriatico Street in Malate. She, a music buff, knew who he was but they were never introduced to each other On that fateful day, they

struck a conversation for the Little shining person first time.

They eventually began dating and were finally married at the National Shrine of St. Michael and the Archangels in San Miguel, Manila.

Reception followed at the same place where they had SHOW their first conversation, at

Both the bride and the groom had no inkling that the cathedral's patron saint was already giving R, chard a clue to the solution of a major puzzle in his life, his long, almost hopeless, search for his American father, James

The long search

Says Roni: "Richard told me that he had never met his father, so I committed myself to helping him find his dad. In early 1999, Richard decided to try to locate his father. We sent letters to all the listed James Merk in the US. We struck gold when we were already preparing for our wedding. Richard received a letter postmarked Cleveand, Ohio, USA, from a Kathleen Merk, who introduced herself as one of two children of the man Richard was looking for.

"Auchard's first telephone conversation with Kathleen was high on emotions. Kathleen quickly sent Richard an album of pictures of their father and family in the US. In July 2000, we traveled to the US and finally met them."

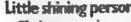
The search ended at the grave of the elder Merk in Cleveland, Ohio. James Merk was 31 when he died of brain tumor on March 21, 1961.

"When we finally visited the grave of Richard's dad, there stood from across it a statue of St. Michael the Archangel, a replica of which also occupied the center of the altar of the cathedral where Richard and I were marned," says Rom.

James and Annie were both based in Okinawa," Roni narrates the love story of Richard's parents. "He was an announcer at the US Air Base and she was a singer at a jazz. dub. They had a special relationship, until James had to return to Cleveland and Anne to Manila. On several occasions, he pleaded with her (then pregnant with Richard) to join him in America. Armie's suict father refused to give his blessings.

"Richard never got the chance to meet his father. He grew up in a family that never seemed complete. Through 43 years, he lived in bewilderment, without an idea of what his father was like. The last that was heard from James was when he wrote Annie asking about little 'Ricky,' which was how he fondly called his son.

Four months after the tearful Merk family reunion, the couple received their "most precious gift from Above," as Rom puts it. Mana Manna was born Nov. 3,



Their music Makati-Merk's Bar Bistro at Level 3, Greenbelt 3 in Ayala Center-is doing well. Richard's next creative project with his wife, a rest house at the Ayala Westgrove in Sta. Rosa, Laguna, is under construction and will be finished early next year.

And Marina is growing into a beautiful person. If walk into our house and here is a little sharing person who is glad to see me again and again," says the beaming fa-

Richard, a Tawag ng Tanghalan champion in the '60s, inherited his passion for jazz not only from his mother, the great Annie Brazil who, at 70, is still wowing the crowds in a New York dub, but also from his impresario of a stepfather, David Wolfe, who once took the entire family with him to Bangkok.

"We stayed in Bangkok for over three years, from 1968 to 1971." Ruchard recalls. "I drove for my stepfather. I would fetch his jazz artists from the airport, bring them to their hotels, rehearsals and per formances. There was much waiting, so rather than bore myself, I listened to their music and actually bked at."

Music and movies

Richard got hooked on music as early as age 7 when he had already mastered "Autumn Leaves." He would later sing with various bands like Sangkatutak, Royal Flush, Sticky Band, Star Band, Blackburd Band, Take One Band, and Fourth



THE JAZZ singer with his wife Roni and their "little shining person," Manna





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rames St.Q.C. One (1) valid code sent = One (!) caffe

entry. Each volid code can be sent only once per registered participant

MALO Event Oraw Prizes [18 deares] MILO jackets (10 minute) P 1,000 worth of Adidas pro-

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The 20th prize sax for Grand Price winners well be phoustered by Nestle Philippents, Inc.

- Permo period is June 15 to November 11,
- _{em} of one (1) ruffle metry is A role required to be slig line for the P 250,000 Grand Prize, A minimum of two (2) raffle enzries is required to be allgible for the P 500,000 Grand Prize. A mirriestate at face (d) raffle entries is required for the P 1 000,000 Grand Poles.

3. The MAO Event Draws will be held on Auly 23. July 30, August 6, August 1, August 20, August 27. September 3, September 10. September 17, and September 24,2004 Entries sent from 12:00 AM to 11:59 PM of the covered period will be qualified for the

MILU Evens draw MILO Event

- 4. Per MALO Every Draw, there will be 10 winners of NILO jackets and 3 winners of Adidas products. MILO Event winners will be announced during the MILO Events to he held two days after the daw
- 5. MILD Event Draw winners will still qualify for the Grand Draw,
- Grand Draw is on November 12, 2004. All entries sent from 1200 AM of June 1510 11:59 PM of November 11, 2004 will qualify
- During the Grand Delega winess can win only once. If his/her name gets down twice, hershe will get the price with the higher
- The electronic draws will be held at Information Gateway, Inc. at Unit 1401 West Tower, Telspe Midg., Eachange Road, Ortigad Corner, Panig City in the presence of a BFAO representation
- All winners will be wereled by the telecommunications company for will charges/foiled transactions Onlyrogatined parocipants with properly balled transactions

- 10. Winners will be informed through a call to their mobile phones and via registered mail
- 11. Grand Prize wirmers can claim their prizer Fore Nesde Philippines. Inc., Nesde Center, 31 Baza Drive, Rockwell Center, Makes City. Apart from 2 valid the with photo and signature, and the active collehone with the nning 54M card, they should present the
 - one MILD sticker fattached to MILO tabel) with valid code rented at (winning code included)
 - P 500,000 wireset zwo MILO seichers intrached to MILO labels) with valid codes realed in (wanning code included)
 - ₱ 1,000,000 wine lour MILE stickers (attached to MILO labels) with valid codes tested in (wanning code uncluded)

AGLO 18 labels should be circun and fully intact. The codes should correspond to the codes sent to information Ga they will be considered invalid

\$2. A winner may send a representative to claim the price provided the representative brings an authorization letter from the winner, the representative's valid ID with photo and signature, and all the requirements stated

in the preceding section.





- 13. MQD Every Draw winners may cuim their prizel at any of the 28th National MICO Marathon events. They should present the active cellphone with the winning 54M card. MILO FK label, and the sticker with the winning code, plus two valid IDs with photo and signature. If they cannot come to a MLD Event, they may claim their prize at designated Nestlé offices (as indicated in
- the registered mail notification). 14. Winners need to sign an acknowledgment eceipt/waiver to be provided by Nestin before they get their prubt-
- 15. Prizes must be claimed within 60 days after notification. Otherwise, they will be forsetted with prior BFAD approval
- 16. All emoloyees of Nescié Philippines, inc... Globe Telecom, innove Communications, Publicis-Manile Smart Communications. Piket Information Gateway, packaging suppliers, advertising and promotion agencies, and relatives up to the 2nd degree of consanguintry and affinity are automatically disqualified from the promo-
- 17. Promo is available nationwide.



and his half-sibilings Kathleen and Michael in Ohio

RICHARD'S father, the late James Merk...

FAIRVIEW

ANACONDAS

COLLATERAL

ANACONDAS

THE NOTEBOOK

I, ROBOT

THE VILLAGE

ANACONDAS

ANACONDAS

CONNEC AND CARLA

LAWS OF ATTRACTION

ALIEN VS. PREDATOR

BANGKOK HAUNTED 2

PRINCESS DIARIES 2

HOW THAT I HAVE YOU

North

PAMPANGA

THE NOTEBOOK

THE VILLAGE

ANACONDAS

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AMACONDAS

THE NOTEBOOK

PRINCESS CHARLES 2

ALIEN VS. PREDATOR

ALIEN VS. PREDATOR

PRINCESS DIARIES 2

CINDERFILLA STORY

STEPFORD WIVES

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THE NOTEBOOK

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NOW THAT I KAYE YOU

ALIEN VS. PREDATOR

PRINCESS DIARIES 2

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ALIEN VS. PREDATOR

NOW THAT I RAVE YOU

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PRINCESS DIARIES 2

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CONNIE AND CARLA PRINCESS DIARIES 2 **NOW THAT I HAVE YOU ANACONDAB** THE NOTEBOOK LAWS OF ATTRACTION ALIEN VS. PREDATOR **ANACONDAS**

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THE VILLAGE

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ANACONDAS 11.40 FS/12:10 MF/2:20/4:30/6:48/ 8:50/10:30 LFS/ 11-08 LMF/12:40 END

THE NOTEBOOK 11:40 FS/12:10 MF/ 2:50/5:30/8:10/10:30 LFS/10:50 LMF/ 12:55 END

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SEPTEMBER 6 - SUNBAY **AUSTRA** BELGIUM 2 PORTUGAL. NETHERLANDS ON THE OTHER SEA OF **SMEET** THE BLACK METEOR SILENCE HIGHTMARE BRIDGE [61] PG-13 PG-11 PG- 3 9-30pm 2:00om 4 30pm 7:00pm Bartes are subject to change milkent perer natice

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NOW THAT I HAVE YOU

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ALIEN VS. PREDATOR

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"Two Thumbs Up!" "Funny and Outrageous" ACTSIZEME COM VANNER BEST DIRECTOR SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL SXSW US COMEDY ARTS FESTIVAL Wordan: Spurlock

SEPTEMBER 5, 2004

HEAD OF THE WHOLE

'Meet and Greet' days with Blue

NICKELODEON Philippines, together with Anchor 1+, recently gave many children a memorable bonding time with "Blue," the animated puppy.

Blue was playing games and dancing with young fans that gathered at SM Megamall and SM North Edsa recently on "Meet and Greet" days.

Another series of "Meet and Greet" days was held at the Character Shop, Infant's Wear and Children's Wear sections of SM Megamail and SM North Edsa, in connection with the

PRINCESS QUARIES-2

CONNIE & CARLA

ANACONDAS

THE HOTEBOOK

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HAMOG

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ANACOHDAS

DEAD PEOPLE

THE VILLAGE

ANACONDAS

ALIEN VS. PREDATOR

ha) tel (049) 545,7383

PRINCESS DIARIES-2

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Cinema 2000 Target Mali (Sta. Ress, Laguas) let (049) 837.0926

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DEAD PEOPLE

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THE CHIDERELLA STORY

(Tarias) bel (045) 982,1729

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PRINCESS DIABLES-2

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(Baclatan) tel 679.2030 / 879.2029

BEAD PEOPLE

DEATH CURSE

THUMBERBIRD

KARELASYON

ANACOMOAS

SUGAT

(Cabantinan City) fet (644) 463-3283

(Catamira) bel (049) 545.7202

chain's promo-For

3-year-old Nathaniel Gallegos, grand prize winner of the Nickelodeon-Anchor 1+ raffle promo, it was "Meetgreet-party-play-and get enchanted Day." The blue paw marks brought him, his family and friends on a VIP tour of the Enchanted Kingdom.

bonding reeled off with a free ride from Manila via Blue's Clues coaster.

Kids are first, especially with Blue who gave all Nick fans, both the young ones and the young once, a trueblue triple treat they will always remember.



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PRINCESS MARIES 2 GP / FR: 12:25PM, 2:10PM, 5:55PM, LMP: 8:40PM AMADDWDAS

PG: 13/F\$: 10:35 AM, 12:500M, 2.85PM, B:200M, 7:35 PM, LMP: 0:50PM THE STEPFORD WIVES PE-13780 113666, 13696, 33096 COMPAN PORPOL LAND GOAPS THE NOTEBOOK

PG-13/FE-12:30PM, 3:15PM. & MAPAL, LAIP: 8:46PM

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SUPER CINERAMA hell 753 4336 AMACONDAS

2. THE NOTEBOOK 3. SUGAT ALJEN VS., PREDATO HAMOG

Gotesco Grand Central (Caluscan) tel 364.3781 RESERVE NOW THAT I HAVE YOU SUGAT

4cms HAMOG THUMDERBIRDS ALJEDI VS. PREDATO **ANACOMDAS** Toron **RESERVE** RESERVE

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NOTEBOOK

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(Amyrics City) hel (IMS) 687.6121 PRINCESS CHARTES-2 ANACOHDAS ANACONDAS ALONG CAME POLLY

(Nagripan City) tel (175) 535.1489 CINDERELLA STORY THE YILLAGE COLLATERAL ALIENT VS PREDATOR

Centre Plaza Cinema (Balanga, Balana) (et (047) 237.7097 BARFIELD THE VILLAGE

MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT

TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Richard Merk.. From page A2-3

Congregation. He represented the Philippines in international music competitions such as the Singaporean Jazz Festival with the Sticky Band and the Asean Festival in Thailand.

He also recorded the theme song of Singapore's 25th independence anniversary.

At 10, Richard appeared in his first movie in 1965, "Mga Espada ng Rubitanya" for Sampaguita Pictures, with the late Vic Vargas and the studio's contract stars. He played the young Ed-Gutierrez in "Tanikalang Dugo," another Sampaguita starrer, and went on to do more movies with Fernando Poe Jr., Dolphy and Charito Solis. Altogether until his adulthood, he was in more than 20 movies.

He has recorded albums, performed in stage plays, live concerts, movies and television and in shows in London, Germany, Greece, Thailand, Singapore, Yemen, Jordan, US and Beirut. He is also the voice behind many commercial jingles for San Miguel Beer, Pepsi, Mountain Dew, BPI Express Teller, Juicy Fruit Gum, Levi's, Nestle, and Colgate.

New label

He is set to launch a new record label under Trademerk Concepts Inc. Named after his daughter, the label called Manna Records and will release his mom Annie Brazil's jazz album.

When the Merks started their bar bistro, Richard's fellow artists turned out in full suppost. As he likes to say at every opportunity, Richard gives back to these artist-friends who came to his rescue when he needed them most.

The Merics always have work for their singer-friends in their well-patronized bar Mondays through Saturdays. Every Wednesday, Merk & Friends the featured are artists.

When bost and singer Eddie Mercado suffered a stroke last May Richard came to the rescue with a benefit show. He had done the same for the late Lito Molina and several foundations and causes like Hope for the World through Tota Verlanie Fuentes, through Foundation International School. He auso staged Apostol's Menchu show and guitar auc-

tion for chadren's edu-

ENTERTAINMENT

Manila gives film festival producers P1M each

By Tarra V. Quismundo

SHORTLY after announcing its belt-rightening measures, the Manila city government on Friday "sacrificed" P7 15 million in cash incentives for screenwriters and producers who took part in the Manila Film Pestival last June.

"We need the money but we want to help film producers and scriptwriters," said Mayor Lito Atienza, addressing the recipients of the cash incentives.

"This is a sacrifice for us to help you."

In a ceremony at the Manila City Hail yesterday morning,

each film festival entry P1 milhon. The recipients were Regal Films, which fielded "Sabel" in the festival, Magsaysay Films, "Anak Ka ng Tatay Mo"; Angora Films, "Naglalayag"; Rocketts Production, "Mano Mano 3"; Star Cinema, "Volta"; and Viva Films, "Kulımlım."

"Naglalayag" received an additional P500,000 for being recognized as the festival's best picture, and another P50,000 for having the best float during the film festival parade.

The screenwriters of the participating movies received

Atienza gave the producer of P100,000 each.

"We want to really help the local film industry," said Atienza af-

ter the distribution of checks. "We see films as an effective means of promoting the city, promoting values."

Atienza called on the producers to make the city a setting of their films, even as he promised to help them further by doing away with shooting fees within the city.

York and "New

Rome became known for films Manila a film setting is a big mite moratorium on hiring city shot in these cities," he pointed booster." out. "That's why I believe making

personnel and procuring vehicles He earlier announced an indef to save on the city's budget

Pop-R&B teener in Streetscape show

Hahn will perform in a special show at the Shangri-La Plaza's Streetscape on Friday, Sept. 10, at 8 p.m.

The 15-year-old singing produgy, a high schoo, sophomore at St. Paul College in Pasig City, has trained in various establishments including the University of the Philippines College of Music, the Ryan Cayabyab School of Music and the Greenhills Music Studio, among others.

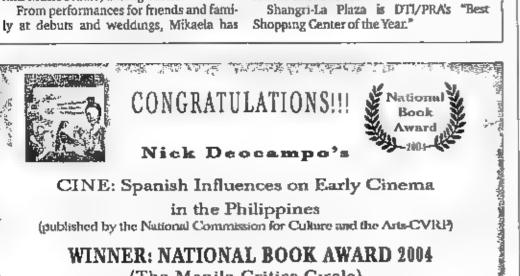
From performances for friends and fami-

TEENAGE pop and R&B singer Mikaela moved on to highly visible performances for the Friends of the CCP at the Cultural Center of the Philippines and Peninsula Hotel, at Dish at the ABS-CBN complex in Quezon City, and at Streetscape earlier this

> Hahn's performance will be followed by a show featuring the Great Divide band at

> For more information, call customer relations at 6337851.

Shangri-La Plaza is DTI/PRA's "Best



(The Manila Critics Circle)

Nick Decempo's scholarly investigation articulates one of the country's dominant cultural forms that continues to define the Filipinos as a nation.

"Staggeringly informational!" Dr Bierrenida Lumbera, Magayiay Avardee

"apromises to be the definitive work on the history of film

(in the Philippines!!" Ambeth Ocampo, Chairman, Net'l Historical Institute

As added the Printerson Broadstaness of the preserves and engineer with 727 1995 our flow 727 1992 in

The European Union in cooperation with Mowelfund Film Institute, The Podium & SM Cinemas presents

EUROPA



at 2PM!

SEA OF SILENCE (BELGO M)

at 4:30PM!

THE BLACK METEOR THE NETHERLANDS



at 7PM! ON THE OTHER SIDE OF

> THE BRIDGE (AUSTRIA) by Hu Mai



at 9:30PM!

SWEET NIGHTMARE (PORTUGAL)

Formando Fragata







POTITUM EPSON AN INTERPRES

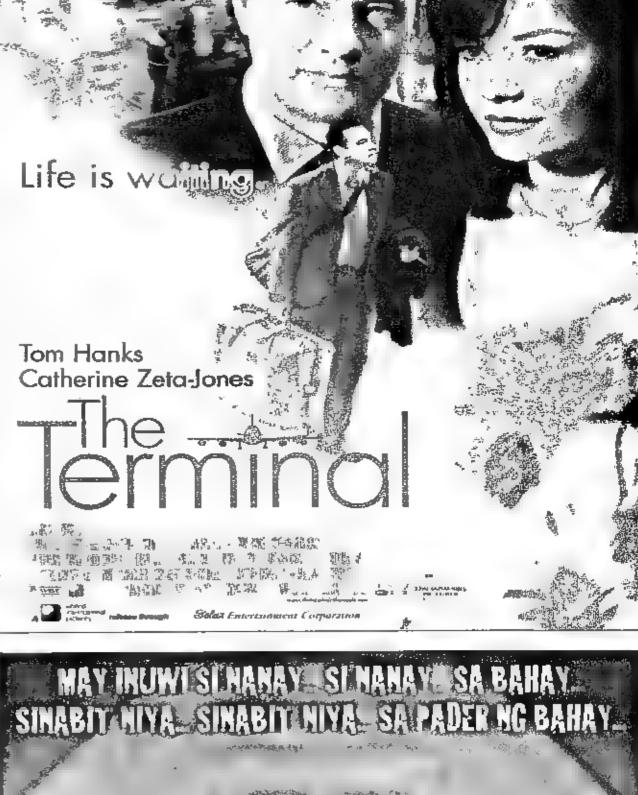


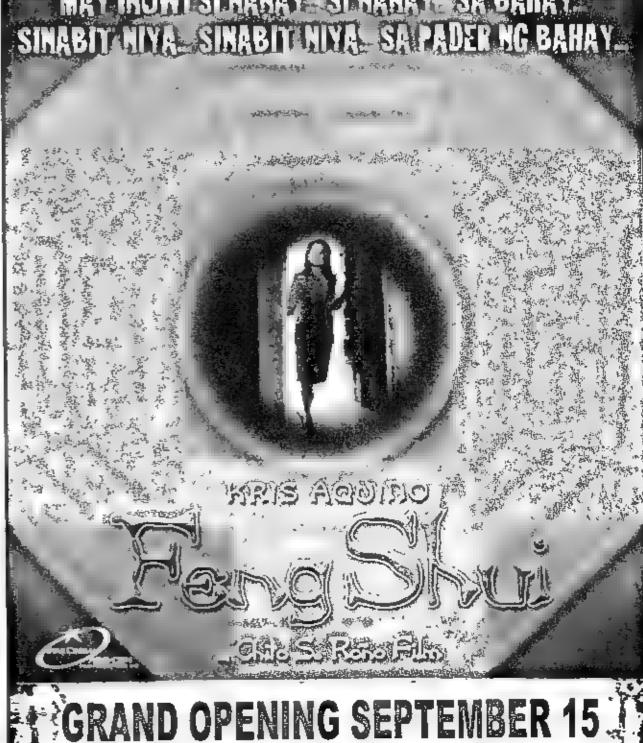
A large proportion of the audience may be drawn to "JAN DARA" for the sex on-screen, and there is certainly piently of that, in all possible variations. But they will also find themselves rewarded by a fascinating character study, an examination of society in flux, and a reflection on the vagaries of fate.

Rina Jimenez David - Phil. Daily Inquirer, Aug. 31,2004









welcome the upcoming release of the video and DVD of THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST. This effort will make the movie more accessible: to our brethren in the faith here in our country." GAUDENCIO B. ROSALES, D.O. Architectus of Identity

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THE NOTEBOOK

SUPER SIZE ME CONNIE AND CARLA 10-45, 180, 3:15, 5:30, 7:46, 18:00

750:20, 1240, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00 11:00, 1:46, 4:30, 7:45, 10:00 THE PRINCESS DIARIES 2 ANACONDAS 10:20, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:60, 10:00 Q LAWS OF ATTRACTION \$12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 8:00, 6:00, 10:00

JANDARA ALIEN VS, PREDATOR THE VILLAGE 1,3240, 3.00, 520, 740, 1850 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:09

MATINEE: Monday to Friday/ 10 am-4pm except holidays Matinee Price: P80 for one level cinemas Regular Price: P150 THX / P95/65 for two levels cinemas / P95 for one level cinemas

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536-7809 to 12

ANACONDAS SUPER SIZE ME

10:40, 12:50, 3:00, 5:10, 7:20, 9:40 THE PRINCESS DIARIES 2

J 11:30, 2 09, 4:30, 7:00, 8:48

ALIEN VS. PREDATOR

CONNIE AND CARLA LAWS OF ATTRACTION 1620, 1206, 200, 125, 650, 745, 960 | 1 11.50, 120, 250, 650, 750, 950

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THE NOTEBOOK

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ALIEN VS PREDATOR

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NOVALICHES / FAIRVIEW

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THE PRINCESS DIARIES 2 11:00, 1.25, 3.50, 6:15, 8:40

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LAWS OF ATTRACTION

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ALIEN VS. PREDATOR

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1 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR 11 THE PRINCESS DIARIES 2 2THE PRINCESS DIARIES 2

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ALIEN VS PREDATOR 2THE PRINCESS DIARIES 2 JANDARA HAMOG

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HAMOG ALIEN VS. PREDATOR 5THE PRINCESS DIARIES 2 THUNDERBIRDS 6

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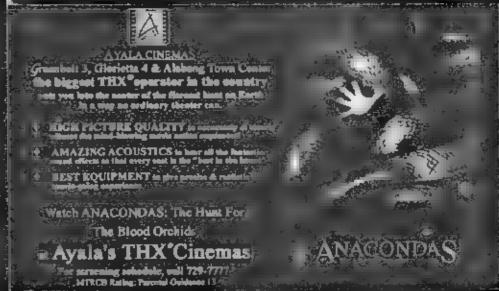
REENBELT 2 GREENBELT 2: MUSIC STYLES from Thursday to Salurday (7 10pm)

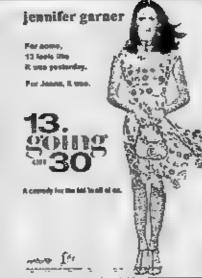
GREENBELT & SAVOUR NATURE EXHIBIT BY WWF PHILIPPINES Greenbelt 3 Lobby, September 1 to 14

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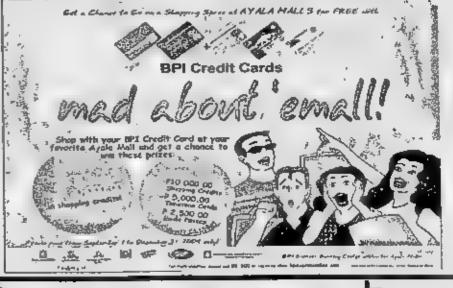
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Or los no to wave universally can be well reserved.







AYALA CENTER LOVEMAII!



ANDREA del Rosario

Hotbabes on 'Hotstuff' video

HOTBABES have shown that they could sizzle on screen. They've demonstrated that they've got pipes good enough to cut two CDs, "Buiaklak" and "Kikay." They showed their wares on the fashion ramp. And they showed it all in volumes 1 and 2 of Hotstuff magazine

Now, the "Hotstuff" video makes you privy to some shots that were not in the magazines. And if you still can't get enough, the video also features choice clips from the movies of the Babes. Playing host to Katya, Andrea, Gwen, Jen, Myles, Kristine, - Ella V., Hazel and the rest is TV funny man Ogie "The Sexual Fantasy Guru" Diaz.

"Hotstuff the Video," released by Viva Video, is available on VCD for P199 and DVD for P299.



KATYA Santos



Ayla de Joya,

one of the promising

students of Center for Pop Music **Philippines** (CPMP), recently performed in a dinner concert at the Officers Clubhouse in Fort Bonifacio, Makati, CPMP produced the concert titled "Ayla Emerged," which coincided with Ayla's 18th birthday. Last year, Ayla performed in the "Voices and Faces" concert with other students of Center for Pop Music. The daughter of lawyer Alberto de joya and Loida Bautista is a freshman at the Miriam Coilege.

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Bong: Ban on R-18 films can kill industry



pornographic"

THE DECISION of the SM theater chain not to show "R" or "R 18" movies could destroy the local movie industry, according to Sen. Ramon "Bong" Revilla Jr., who is also a movie **ACTOR**

Revilla said in a statement that given the current slump in the Philippine film industry, "a sweeping ban on all R-18 films" by one of the country's largest networks of cinemas-if not the largest-would finally end the life of the country's dying film industry.

Revilla, who heads the Senate committee on mass media, said, "We welcome SM management's move to protect young audiences from anything inappropriate they see on a movie screen. But a sweeping ban of all R-18 films would suck the life out of the local movie industry."

The young first-time senator added that even if the ban is restricted only to movies with sexual plot/content, SM management should think twice before implementing its decision. "We have the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB) to censor our movies," he said. "Let them do their job, but we urge them to do so with fair-

In a letter to SM president Teresita Sy, Revilla pointed out that "I am against pornography in the film industry."

But a film classified as R 18 is not necessarily a pornographic film," he said in the letter to Sy. "There are movies which are drama and action in orientation but are nonetheless classified as R-18 "

Revilla, who was chair of the Video Regulatory Board before he was elected senator, said banning these movies from the SM theaters "will encourage puracy of locally produced films."

In another statement, Revilla lauded the Bureau of Immigration (BI) for its decision to tighten the screening of foreign actors and movie producers intending to shoot in the Philippines.

The BI move can prevent the displacement of Filipino actors and producers due to foreign competition. "This is a development that our local film industry badly needs," Revilla

said. Last week, the BI and the Film Academy of the Philippines (FAP) forged an agreement, where the FAP will help the BI streen foreign film producers applying for permits to shoot movies in the country.

According to the agreement, foreign producers will make an equity payment to the actors' guild equivalent to the performance rates of the total number of rocal film artists and workers that could be displaced as a result of the making of the foreign film here.

Revilla said he is pushing for legislation that would revitalize the movie industry, including protecting intellectual property rights, penalizing film and music piracy, and regulating the operation of cable television.

Anna Marin, a movie actress from the '80s, was seen dining with a son at Cibo at the Power Plant Mall at Rockwell in Makati City last Wednesday afternoon. Anna, who was

DID You Know...

one of the lead stars of Marilou Diaz-Abaya's classic film "Moral" has a love child by action king and former pres-

idential candidate Fernando Poe Jr. During the campaign for the May 10 elections, FPJ did not deny that Anna's elder son, Ron-an, a 22-year-old student at De La Salle University, is his.

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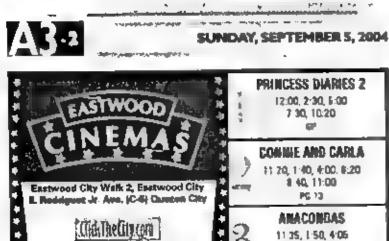
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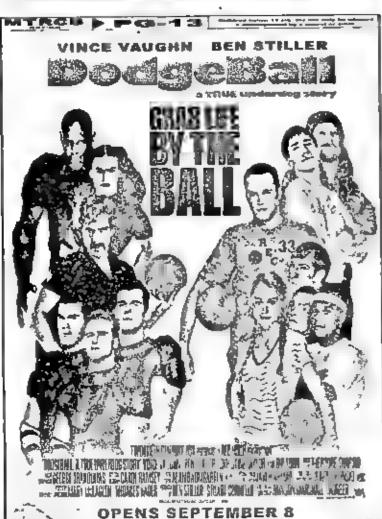
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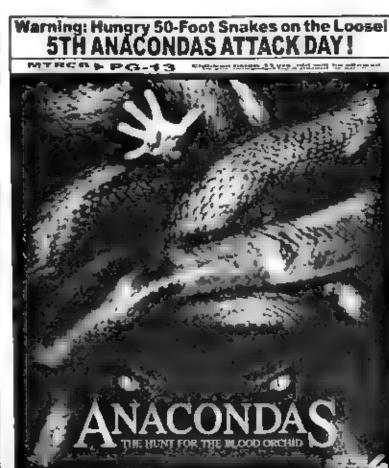
"GHOST STORY HAS A COOL, OLD-FASHIONED CHILLING THE TRADITION OF THE SIX SENSE AND THE RING."



Codsend is a subtle, insidiously haunting thriller with here-and-now questions and a tinteless sense of dread and fear It binges on an all-too-plausible idea; Jessie and Paul Duncan (Rebecca Romija-Stamos and Greg Kinnear) tragically fose their 8-year-old son, Adam (Cameron Bright). At the funeral, they're approached by an old teacher of Jessie's, researcher and doctor Richard Wells (Robert De Niro), who offers them an opportunity "I can give you Adam back. I can clone him, duplicate him and give him back to you.

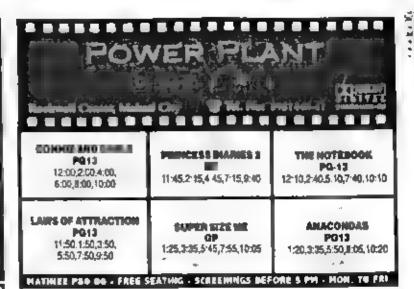
But no one can know ..." With that softly whispered Faustian bargain, Mark Bomback's script leaves the gleaminghigh-tech world of genetics and science and eases down the dark, wooded path of campfire ghost stones. Adam is born for the second time, but around his eighth birthday, he beginsto have fits, sleepwalking terrors and visions of dead people in the house. Director Nick Hamm is proud that his chiller doesn't contain any computergenerated effects, and he should be not only does that decision help create a spare, sparse feeling, it also helps give Godsend a trusy interesting tone. Too often in modern horror films, we're treated to every computer-generated hair on a werewolf's snarting head, or a grisly image straight from the latex-and-fake-blood workshops of Rick Baker or some other effects wizard. Godsend avoids that kind of imagination-sapping excess to favor of oldfashioned camerawork and naturalistic creepiness in the tradition of THE SIX SENSE and THE RING. Godsend is also enhanced by the performances. Interestingly, the most captivating performance in the film comes from Cameron Bright, the newcomer piexed to play both versions of Adam. As Godsend moves through its plot, Bright's cool, collected performance has to alternate between confusion and maria, sympathetic confusion and blank-eyed fearsomeness, and he pulls it off; in fact, Bright is so strong that he rises above the screenplay. Godsend may lean a little heavily on horror cliches there's a conveniently abandoned tool shed full of sharp, rusty objects, and the plot's lynchom of a miracle child who may or may not be diabolical is nothing new --but the film also works as a reminder of a time when horror-thrillers walked a line between science and the supernstural thattook audiences to a scary, new place.



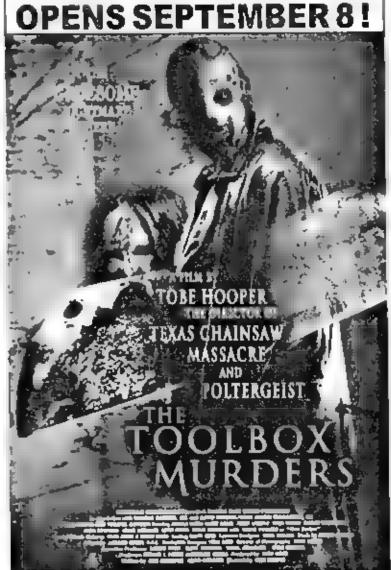


















'Sandalwood': Music in a conspiracy of hope

By Tals Diaz 2bμ

award winning singers, Broadway veterans and Assumption nuns share in com-

They are all part of a conspiracy, a "conspiracy of hope" as they touted, and their beautiful message is expressed in the newly released album, "Sandalwood."

"Sandalwood" takes its name from an old Spanish proverb which has Middle Eastern origins: "Be like the sandalwood, which perfumes the ax that wounds it."

Thus, the album is a collective story of hope and forgiveness, highlighted by Joey Albert and Cocoy Laurel.

"Sandalwood" is unlike any other spiritual CD you have ever heard before. It defies stereotypes because it is not at all preachy or over-syrupy. Instead, it is more about beautiful stories set in aurally fixating melodies.

The album's track list spans the

pop, classical and jazz, to Latin and Celtic rhythms.

"Sandalwood" was launched in a soldout, special concert night held at the Rigodon ballroom of the Manila Peninsula on Aug. 17. Joey and Cocoy, as well as infinitely talented Assumption alumnae Cicy Campbell, Marilen Liwag Reambilio and Loudette Zaragoza Banson performed the various songs in the album.

There were quite a number of teary eyes in the audience, especially when some of the performers told about their own stories of personal struggles. Joey, who flew back to Manila from Vancouver to sing for the concert, spoke of coming "full circle," turning toward a deeper life of spirituality despite her continuing bout with

Touching lives

"This is a coming home to everything," Joey shares. "Every morsel that was embedded in me, it's all in here, in this project. This CD touches hearts. Other than to range of musical genres, from touch hearts and hopefully trans-



HOMECOMING, Joey Albert sings with Cocoy Laurel.

form, you have to use every possible means to transform, hopefully for the better. I hope this CD just goes where it's supposed to go because it has a strong sense of purpose. This is something that I have done not for the career moves, but because I believe 1 have my purpose, which is to touch people's lives and to give a moment to think of the essen-

Joey sings five of the 13 tracks in the album, among them the ballads "Lift Your Face to the Rain," "Broken Alleluia," "I Can-

not Do It Alone," "God of Hope," and "Just for You" with Cocoy.

Cocoy, who himself was coping with his father's recent death (former Vice President Salvador Laurel), described the work in "Sandalwood" as "beautiful singing."

Speaking about his experience in the album's collaboration, Cocoy shares, "It's very different from singing for a vast audience about another story, or about other Broadway musicals or something that means another thing. Of course, you can make even other songs an offering; it depends on how you make everything an offering. Sometimes, if you're singing for a musical, you try using technique and making it effordess, but because of tensions and things, it becomes effortful. But with this, it was so effortless because it felt like a great joy. I was singing beautifully because I was singing for the Lord."

Living messages

Produced in the United States, all songs were written by former

Assumption sister Carmen "Pinky" Valdes, and produced by former talent manager and now US-based Nini Diaz.

Herself a survivor of a near-fatal stroke, Pinky Valdes decided to leave her legacy of inspiring songs in the hopes of making a difference in people's lives. "Sandalwood" is that very legacy.

Being true to the sandalwood's message of hope, all proceeds of the albums sale will benefit Tahanan Walang Hagdan, Chosen Children and the Assumption Education Centre in Bukidnon.

During the concert, Pinky called upon the audience to join her "conspiracy of hope," which is to become inspired, living messages of hope and forgiveness despite being in a world that inflicts suffering.

The album is currently a hot item in the independent distribution circuits in the United States, and is now being sold locally at al. Tower Records and Music One stores, as well as House of Praise. A Filipino translation of "Sandalwood" is already in the works.

Miracle on 'Pasada Sais-Treinta': A day in the life of dzMM

By John M. Unson Contributor

LAST Aug. 5, a Thursday, a miracle happened on dzMM, and listeners could not take their attention away. It happened for Kenneth de la Cruz, 15, and his mother, a teacher.

Kenneth had been diagnosed with end-stage kidney disease and needed immediate dialysis. His kidneys have ceased to function properly.

This meant two things. Kenneth would first need dialysis, a wearying procedure in which the body would be attached to a machine that would take charge of the blood cleansing. Then he would need a kidney transplant, which would cost P500,000.

Kenneth's mother, Maria Cecilia Abuting, couldn't afford a kidney transplant. She decided to seek help for his dialysis by bringing her son to "Pasada Sais-Treinta," the daily afternoon show on dzMM.

She hoped and prayed for even a small donation to help fund Kenneth's dialysis and medicines. Her prayer would be answered in a a soft, pained voice that he piped



KAREN Davila

way she did not expect.

On "Pasada Sais-Treinta" that Thursday afternoon, hosts Karen Davila and Vic Lima asked Mana Cecilia to explain the situation to

María Ceciha said she was a smgle mother to Kenneth, who had to stop going to school after he was diagnosed with the end-stage kidney disease. For the dialysis, she had been souching money from family, relatives, friends and strangers, but she was running out of people to go to. Kenneth said in

his mother because she had been anonymity also pledged donatirelessly looking for help. Sometimes, he said, he felt like losing bope and the will to live but he continued to struggle to live if only for his loved ones.

Mother and son's story was so touching that Karen's eyes started to fill with tears. Vic also got emotional and had to leave the radio

booth to compose humself. Soon, Karen could no longer control herself and was sobbing as she appealed to listeners to help Kenneth and his mother.

Even while Karen and Vic continued to talk to Kenneth and his mother, donations were starting to pour in. First to respond to the appeal was Senate President Franklin Drilon, who said he was giving P75,000. Sen. Lato Lapid, Manila Mayor Lito Atienza, and another senator asked for

A doctor who happened to be in the building and heard the appeal donated the medicine that Kenneth needed.

A 13-year-old girl named Gabrielle gave all her savings of P300. Kenneth said he could not possibly accept it. Gabrielle simply

replied, "You need this more than I the case of another boy named

By Aug. 9, or four days after the emotional broadcast, more than P400,000 had been raised for Kenneth's treatment. Some callers were even willing to donate kidneys for Kenneth's transplant.

Karen said it was not a first on "Pasada Sais-Treinta." She recalled

Nikolai who had a liver disease. The appeal for him on dzMM and ABS-CBN generated donations of almost P1.3 million.

'All of us can actually help make a miracle," Karen said days after the visit of Kenneth and his mother. "Heip, no matter how small, can change people's lives."

Changing styles on RMN shows

THE TOP-RATED programs "Oro Mismo," anchored by Gani Oro, and "Doble Banda" of funny duo Ka Rene 🖰 Jose and Señor Rey Pacheco now air live every morning on a dzXL 558 of Radio Mindanao Network (RMN).

Keeping the 5-7 KA Rene a.m. time slot of "Oro

Mismo," award-winning broadcaster and NBN-4 TV news anchor Gam Oro gives listeners a wrapup of the day's news as well as features segments for students and workers.

"We have transformed the news broadcast to a news magazine format because I believe that news is not only about politicians," said

Among the new segments of the reinvig-orated "Oro M.smo" are "Pinoy Hanap-buhay" for enterprising Pinpinos, "Science and Technology" with UP professor Edmon Rosales, and "Balitang Eskwela" for students.

"Everything is here," said Oro, "including traffic situationers, weather reports, and listeners phoning in. This is both educational majority of the population, between 18 and 45 years old."

Óro also hosts "Argumento," 7-30-8 a.m. on dzXL, with station manager Rly Saludar.

The RMN nationwide broadcast is supported by 17 field reporters in mega Manila and 25 provincial stations all over the country.

*Doble Banda" aus from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.



SENOR Pacheco

Witty partners Ka Rene and Senor Pacheco provide listeners a lighthearted approach to news reporting.

'The style of radio has to change," said Ka Rene, speaking in Filipino. "Not all radio commentaries should be angry. We should also he able to make

the listeners laugh,"

But he stresses that injecting humor into the news does not mean the commentaries will be toothless.

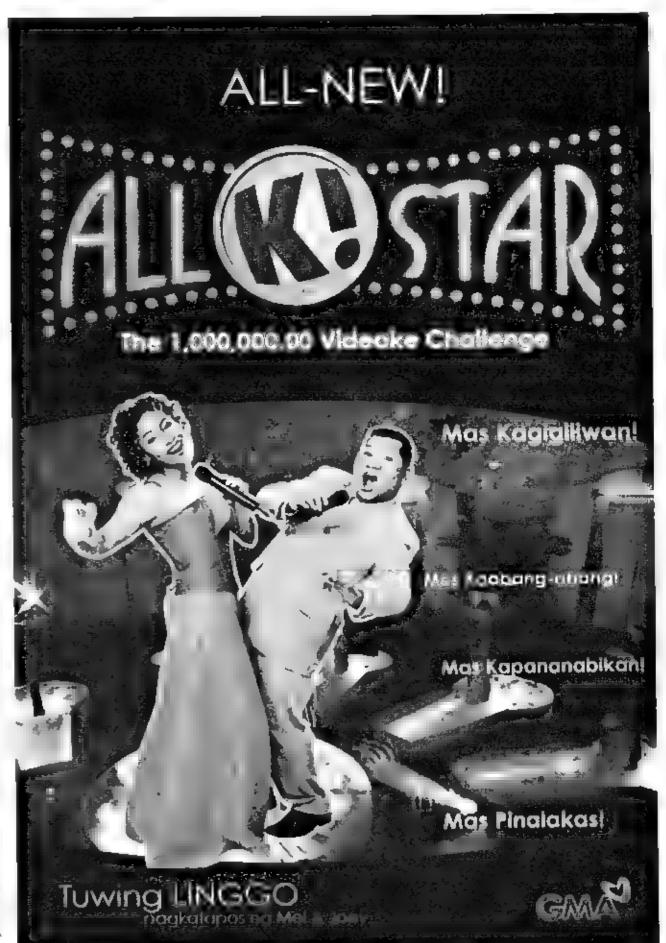
"May kapilyuhan at lumalatay pa rin ang komentaryo," he said.

Señor Pacheco said public service will continue to be an integral part of the program, with regular traffic news alerts from trapik.com as well as on-air interviews with government officials.

RMN, which earned more respect in the broadcasting industry for its reporting of the war in southern Philippines, is going for the big league with the recent addition of programs as well as veteran commentators.

It has also entered into a partnership with and informative. We also want to reach the television station ABC 5 for the joint programming of primetime TV news program "Sentro ng Balita," anchored by John Susi and Ali Sotto, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Susi is also heard from 10 a.m. to 12 noon with Jamie Quinto on dzXL

> One of the pioneers in nationwide radio broadcasting, RMN celebrated its 52nd anniversary on Aug. 28.





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father's steps since arriving from China at 12.

Henry Sy's daughter shares dad's story and his 14 life principles

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

WHILE most lessons are best learned through example, who best to share them than the one who has lived by those examples.

"I would have preferred that you hear the things I will be telling you directly from him. Instead, I shall be sharing with you some things I have learned from my father ... He lives to work and

our shoulders in business," Teresita Sy, eldest daughter of taipan Henry Sy, tells an eager crowd.

of the Federation Building in Binondo which drove him to make a living. He led some two weeks ago was packed with students, businessmen, and guests who gathered to hear Tessie Sy, president of Shoemart Inc. and chair of Banco de but wanted a better future for his family,

work he does for many hours a day. He Oro. The occasion was the second of a is still very active, often looking over series of taipan fora by the Federation of Filipino Chinese Chambers of Commerce and industry inc. (FFCCCII).

Tessie recalls how her father, Henry, A conference hall at the seventh floor came from a very humble background a hard life in China and at age 12 decided to seek greener pastures in the Philippines. He put up a sari-sara store at first

After World War II, he sold and imported American shoes and started opening a couple of shoe stores.

To be different from other shoe retailers, her father went on a long trip to the US to bring back shoe materials to

give his products a more stylish look. Her father then opened the first Shoemart in 1958 which he patterned after a shoe store in the US.

HENRY/ B2

"When mylinvestment allows me to sleep at night, I know I've made the right decision."

it's never easy to look for a worthwhile investment. After all, with the amount of work one puts in just to earn a good living, the risks of making a bad investment almost always outweigh the gains. Should I invest in a business? A franchise?

Stocks? Bonds? Or should I play it safe and leave. my money in the bank?

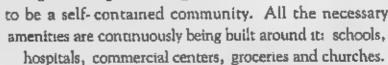
These were the questions that haunted Eric Rabat for many years. He has always seen himself as a conservative · investor; one who takes calculated risks and plans for the long-term. Before going into any venture, he usually does research and makes inquiries from more experienced folks. When he put up his food franchise, he made sure he took these steps. Not surprisingly, his pre-planning paid off big time. And when the time came for him to take another leap-buying his first major land investment he adopted the same strategy.

He knew that the South would be a good place to invest in having seen how Ayala Alabang thrived as a community. Through the years,

lots here have appreciated 83 times their original value. If he wanted the same big opportunity, he had to act right away.



So when he was introduced to Ayala Westgrove Heights, the Ayala Land pedigree was just too familiar for him to resist. Like Ayala Alabang, Ayala Westgrove Heights is designed



Only 15 minutes away from Alabang, it is a sanctuary that does not isolate, but offers a chance to escape at the end of the day.

Inside, the lush mango groves and rolling hills, and the cool climate affords residents a certain calmness that is hardly available inside the cities. The entire property is master-planned to maintain the wide open roads and spaces with density kept at its most ideal.

Eric believes that this is the wisest land investment he has ever made for himself, but most especially, for his family. He is certain that Ayala Westgrove Heights is destined to be the



Next Big Thing. Maybe that's why he sleeps soundly at night. Or maybe, his dreams are simply filled with the scent of fresh mornings spent amidst the hills and groves at Ayala Westgrove Heights.

AYALA Westgrove Heights

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(FROM left): Chot Reyes, Anton Gonzalez, Tim Cone and Gil Coscollueia try their hand at cutting Cherry Reyes' hair. MOYEREWS

Four men

and their new baby

TWO winning professional there is any brand in the salon

It was over a cup of coffee in projects, but he nevertheiess

proached entrepreneur Anton - since grade school days also

Gonzaiez with the idea of in- heiped convince him to put his

2002 when Coca-Cola Tigers joined to test new waters.

vesting in the Philippine fran- money in the venture.

just gotten the Toru and Guy fran- ca.l for investors.

master franchise. I joined be-

cause I know brands and if

business, it is Toni and Guy,"

not know as much about the

business as he does high-rise

buildings and construction

Being a friend of Gonzalez

Taking a friendship to an-

other level was also one reason

why Alaska coach Tim Cone

answered Chot and Cherry's

nity for my wife, Cris It was

something that she was really

interested in. Then on top of

that was the idea that Chot was

involved. He is a good friend

and I know that he is a great or-

ganizer. This was a chance for

us to keep our friendship be-

"It was also a great opportu-

Architect Gil Coscolluela did

Gonzalez said

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

never the same again

group, Tons and Guy.

cal choice.

basketball coaches, a leading

architect and a dyed-in-the-

wool entrepreneur got in touch

with their feminine side and

the Manila saion business was

coach Vicente "Chot" Reyes ap-

chise of international salon

veteran in the salon business, had

chise after over a year of waiting.

And they were raring to my out

The Reveses needed part-

Aside from having kept the

ners and Gonzalez was a logi-

friendship with Chot after their

days at the short-lived

ry had just signed up for the

the concept in the Philippines.

Chot and his wife Cherry, a

Sunday BIZ

Bargains in Casablanca's 'Medina,' Laduree's macaroons, secret places

By Sandra Garda Contributor

TRAVELING on business should also have some pleasure. It can bea leisurely respite from the boardroom for crisp cotton shuts at Sales Fifth Avenue or a quick trip to the cheapest flea market for vintage clothes in Paris. Or a quick cup of good coffee in Mexico.

Our business travelers take us on a tour of Morocco, Paris, Borobodur, the US and Mexico as they share their secret addresses.

"In Rabat, the capital city of Morocco, we recommend La Mama, a restaurant in the heart of the city off Avenue Mohammed V (main road) Popular with the expatriates, La Mama's ambiance is rustic and cozy. Specialnes include grilled steaks, brochettes and pizzas baked in a clay oven.

The Moroccan Restaurant at the Horel Tour Hassan in downrown Rabat is our favorite for couscous, tagines (stews) with your choice of fish, chicken or lamb descately and slowly baked in a glazed clay por flavored with a delicate bend of spices like comander, turmenc and basil with stewed tomatoes, olivecourgettes, carrots, etc.

For breads and pastries it's Petit Duchesse, a very popo : and opulent, watering hole of the downtown bakery founded by a nich and famous. Frenchman decades ago. They are known for their authentic French baguerte, assorted pastnes and petit fours.

La Mer in Casablanca is famous for its seafood dishes always fresh and lip-smacking. This ambient handicrafts abound in the maze of



THE EIFFEL Tower in Paris

sually elegant restaurant is loted in the outstarts of Casablanon a high perch at the edge of te scenic coast of the Atlantic xean. Breathtaking view while njoying your meal

The Hotel Mamounta is a must see" when in Marrakesh. piendid appointments, elegant

In all major Moroccan cities like Rabat, Marrakesh, Casabianca, Fez. Tangiers, etc., a visit to a "Medina" to these cines is a must. Exquisite nand-crafted sliver jewelry, carpets, leather goods and local



alleys that criss-cross the "Medina." Interesting experience-Ambassador Hermeneguldo Garcia, career diplomat

"In Paris, blink and you will miss this discreet place-Hotel Bourg Tibourg, a hotel in the Marais owned by the Costes family-decorated by Jacques Garcia at a fraction of the price of their other hotels. It is only a bounque hotel but you get the same cool amenities.

Horel Bourg Tibourg, 19 rue du Bourg-Tibourg, 4th Arrondisse-

ment, Metro-Hote, de Ville Le Martel Forget about Momo

in London, This French Algerian BUSINESS TRAVEL standing food at bistro takes the crown as the best hip North

African restaurant Decorated unlike a casbah, enjoy your couscous and tagine with John Galhano or Vivienne Westwood at the next table. Le Martel 3 Rue Martel, 10th arrondissement, Metro-Chateau d'Eau The Bar at Plaza Athenee, deco-

rated in the neo-Louis XIV style, is the best bar to drink your kir royate. Survey the scene in front of you and you get a cross section of fashionable Pans-Plaza Athenee 25 Avenue Montaigne, 8th Arrondissement, Metro- Alma- Marceau Never leave Paris without hav-

ing tea or at least buy their macaroons at Laduree. Taste the heavensy macaroons and you would wish this is what Proust had instead of the Madeieme!

Laduree- 16 Rue Royale, 8th Arrondissement

Not to miss is Marche Aux Puces de Montreuil-the cheapest flea market in Paris for vintage clothes. You have to trawl through piles and piles of clothing though but worth it for a fashionista. Metro Porte de Montreuil, open Monday-Saturday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.—Georgina Roberto, frequent business traveler, London, England

"Café Ibenco in the trendy river north entertainment district. They serve mouth-watering tapas (the owner is from the Iberian peninsula in Spain) and the meanest sangria served by the pitcher Out-

reasonable prices. 742 N La Salle in Chicago"-Richard Ostrowsky, businessman, Chicago, Illinois

"When in the US. I shop at Saks Fifth Avenue in New York for my cotton shirts (they are reasonably priced) I can't really say if it is the best as I haven't ready surveyed the entire world but there's a quaint little watering hole in Cozumel, Mexico, cailed Carlos & Charite's. They serve real good coffee. Realiy perks you up."-Bob Zozobrado, president, Ideas, frequent business traveler

"Borobodur in Indonesia is just fantastic. Truly a wonder of the world. When there don't miss a trip to the sultan's palace, bird market and potters village The Aman Jiwo Resort is indeed something to write home about. You must try out the relaxing spa therapy at this resort" Vernon For the traveling fashionistas: Prieto, travel planner (Guam)

Metropolitan Basketball Assocause when we play for rival reams, we can get a little disciation, Gonzalez was an expert at retail, with his Planet tant," Cone said. With lawyer Gabby Concep-Sports and Athlete's Foot chains, and managing name cion and Chot's aunt Susan Reyes on the board, the Toni brands like Nike and Puma. "I remember Chot being in and Guy ream was complete very good spirits during that and the shareholders got right meeting because he and Cher- down to business. FOUR/ B3

THE BOROBODUR

Henry Sy's daughter shares dad's story and 14 principles

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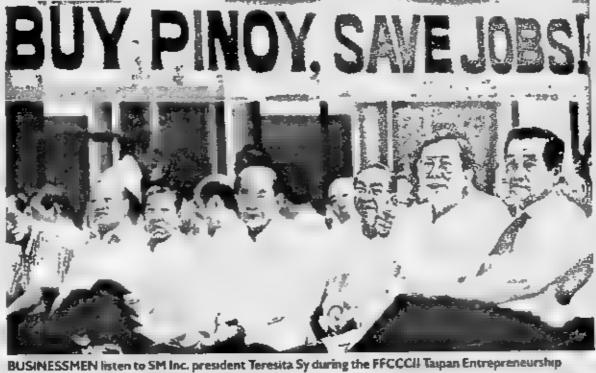
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"Arnidst numerous warnings from people who did not believe it could be done and even thought him crazy for his plans, it turned out to be a huge success. People from as far as Central Luzon and the Southern Tagalog region were drawn to the first SM City especially on weekends," she said.

Undaunted by the warnings, Henry Sy gained more confidence by opening more malls and stores nationwide, bringing its total network to 18 to date. He also dipped his feet in banking in the late '70s with the Ayalas as partners to put up Banco de Oro as he raw the synergy in banking and mall operations.

Sy said her father had always dreamed of making a place for himself in the business world. To achieve this, he devised longterm strategies and worked "doubly hard" on his own without funds, family backing nor political connections.

Sy added that through the years, her father gathered a number of principles which he pracneed and became the Sy family mantra. The mantra is a merger of Eastern and Western, Chinese and universal, modern and traditional as well as theoretical and practical ideas,



Forum at the Federation in Binondo, Manife.

She shares the following 14

1. Strive to be a leader in your chosen field Being a leader means being different, taking bold steps and going to unexplored places. Leadership is a skills can be learned through practice. Being a leader means not waiting for motivation from others. It also means knowing and focusing on one's target and pushing oneself beyond his comfort zone.

2. Be a person of integrity. Be fair, credible and trustworthy and put a lot of weight in commitments and responsibilities.

3 Have a long-term vision and strategy. Sy said her father invested in the future and sought longterm relationships in business.

4. Focusing would mean concentrating and prioritizing. Once goals are identified, this would allow the entrepreneur to concentrate on areas of strength Sy said her father concentrated on four main areas-retail, shopping centers banking and leisure property development. He focused on integrating these and adding value to each area.

"He taught us that as our busi-

ness grows, we also have to go back to basics and concentrate our resources in areas wherein we have a competitive advantage," she said

5 Have a great passion to achieve Desires set one's destiny. skill and process which like other. Sy said the stronger the will power to achieve, the greater one's

She said the adversities of World War II deprived her father of quality education. He knew that education would make him go far so he pursued a college degree but had to stop after two

"Opportunities were open for him to see the world, hence, he had to make a choice between finishing his education or traveling to broaden his knowledge. His passion made him choose the

latter," Sy said. 6 Work hard. Henry Sy told his children there is no substitute for hard work. Long before people lived by "24/7" (24 hours 7 days). Sy was used to working 14 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Sy said she and her siblings were trained to work long hours, developing the stamina that has made them work in the retail business. This had also made up

for some of their deliciencies such as lack of experience and

connections. "Success will not last if you do not continue to work hard, my Dad would always tell us If you are lacking in some aspects, work harder and longer and you may be able to catch up. If you have caught up, work longer so you can surpass your competitors," Sy

said of her father. 7. Be patient and persevere. Henry Sy reminded his children that there is no such thing as overnight success nor easy money If it does happen then it could be hade. Even if one gets lucky, he has to work hard to sustain it. If you fail, do not be discouraged. Try again as they always say.

8. Recognize opportunity. It is one thing to see opportunity, another to do something about it, When opportunity comes, you should be ready to react, otherwise it goes to someone else. Opportunity does not always come knocking. You've got to go out and look for it. Take stock of your assets, talents and resources. Pick the best opportunity you see and take it as far as you can. Don't stop until you have done everything you can do to make it hap-

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"He has seen opportunities in each crisis but has carefully sejected the ones he would pursue. He seems to thrive on crisis and come out of each cycle stronger than ever. To this day, he remains upbeat and buoyantly optimistic that some good will come out of all the changes in the Philippines someday," Sy said

She added that her father realized companies will face a number of crises where each Edipino has to survive and move on.

10 Be confident. A positive attitude comes with confidence. If

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"Instead he resolved to find a workable solution to his problems as many people would be affected if he closed down and left the country. That experience made him recognize his responsibility and his mission to provide emp.oyment," she said

To date the SM Group has suppliers, tenants and employees of around 140,000 people.

14. Social responsibility is important. Sy sald the SM Foundation believes in self-sufficiency. or giving the fisherman the rod instead of fish SM is involved in providing scholarships for 400 students for several years building school houses in far flung towns and providing markets for livelihood programs conducting medical missions and refurbishing hospital activity centers and doing mall based solicitation.

Henry Sy also sees business to be a blend of family and profes sional management.

"As the business expands, he sees business management beyond family members. The fam ly members will not be able to han dle all aspects of the business. For more than a decade we have been bringing in professionals into the organization," she said

Sy said this formula has been an inspiration to her and her family amid their humble begin-

In her desire to trace her family roots, Sy went to China to look for the house her father grew up in. She could not believe Henry Sy grew up in a thatched hut compared with the giant mahs he has built today.

"And seeing the many large buildings he owns, wherein milhons of people go everyday, it is hard to imagine that that is indeed possible," she said

"If we have the passion and the drive and can react appropriately to opportunity that comes our way, there could be many Henry

(FROM left): Chot Reyes, Anton Gonzalez, Tim Cone and Gil Coscoliuela try their hand at cutting Cherry Reyes' hair. HER EPENS

Four men and their new baby

By Tina Arceo-Dumiao

TWO winning professional baskerball coaches, a leading architect and a dyed-in thewool entrepreneur got in touch with their feminine side and the Mamla salon business was never the same again.

It was over a cup of coffee in 2002 when Coca-Cola Tigers coach Vicente "Chot" Reyes apvesting in the Philippine fran- money in the venture. chise of international salon group, Toni and Guy.

just gotten the Toni and Guy fran- call for investors chise after over a year of waiting. And they were raring to try out the concept in the Philippines.

The Reyeses needed partners and Gonzalez was a logical choice.

Aside from having kept the friendship with Chot after their days at the short-nived Metropolitan Basketball Association, Gonzalez was an expert at retail, with his Planet tant," Cone said Sports and Athlete's Foot chains, and managing name brands like Nike and Puma.

"I remember Chot being in very good spirits during that and the shareholders got right meeting because he and Cher-down to business. ry had just signed up for the

master franchise. I joined because I know brands and if there is any brand in the salon business, it is Toni and Guy," Gonzalez said.

Architect Gil Coscolluela did not know as much about the business as he does high-rise buildings and construction projects, but he nevertheless joined to test new waters.

Being a friend of Gonzalez proached entrepreneur Anton - since grade school days also Gonzalez with the idea of in- helped convince him to put his

Taking a friendship to another level was also one reason Chot and his wife Cherry a why Alaska coach Tim Cone veteran in the salon business, had answered Chot and Cherry's

"It was also a great opportunity for my wife, Cris. It was something that she was really interested in. Then on top of that was the idea that Chot was involved. He is a good friend and I know that he is a great organizer This was a chance for us to keep our friendship because when we play for rival teams, we can get a little dis-

With lawyer Gabby Concepcion and Chor's aunt Susan Reyes on the board, the Toni and Guy team was complete

Bargains in Casablanca's 'Medina,' Laduree's macaroons, secret places

By Sandra Garcia Contributor

TRAVELING on business should also have some pleasure, it can bea leasurely respite from the boardroom for crisp cotton shirts at Saks Fifth Avenue or a quick trip to the cheapest flea market for vintage clothes in Paris. Or a quick cup of good coffee in Mexico.

Our business travelers take us on a tour of Morocco, Paris, Borobodur, the US and Mexico as they share their secret addresses.

In Rabat, the capital city of Morocco, we recommend La Mama, a restaurant in the heart of the city off Avenue Mohammed V (main road) Popular with the expatriates, La Mama's ambiance is rustic and cozy. Specialties include graled steaks, brochertes and pizzas baked in a clay oven.

The Moroccan Restaurant at the Hotel Tour Hassan in downtown Rabat is our favorite for couscous. tagines (stews) with your choice of fish, chicken or lamb descately and slowly baked in a glazed clay por spices like conander, turmeric and enjoying your meal. basii with stewed tomatoes, olives, courgettes, carrols, etc.

For breads and pastries it's ha Petit Duchesse, a very popular downtown bakery founded by a Frenchman decades ago. They are known for their authentic French baguette, assorted pastries and pent fours.

for its seafood dishes always fresh and lip-smacking. This ambient

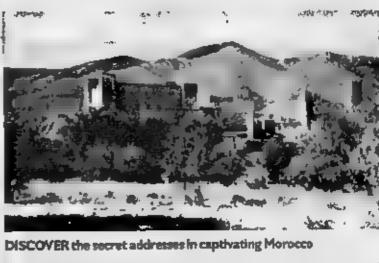


THE EIFFEL Tower in Paris

ensually elegant restaurant is loested in the outskirts of Casablana on a high perch at the edge of the scenic coast of the Atlantic flavored with a deheate blend of. Ocean. Breathtaking view while

The Hotel Mamounia is a "must see" when in Marrakesh Splendid appointments, elegant and opulent, watering hole of the rich and famous.

In all major Moroccan cities like Rabat, Marrakesh, Casablanca, Fez, Tangiers, etc., a visit to a "Medina" to these cities is a must. La Mer in Casabianca is famous Exquisite nand-crafted stiver jewel ry, carpets, leather goods and local handicrafts abound in the maze of



alleys that criss-cross the "Medina." Interesting experience- Ambassador Hermeneguldo Garcia, career diplomat

"In Paris, brink and you will miss this discreet place—Hotel Bourg Tibourg, a hotel in the Marais owned by the Costes family-decorated by Jacques Garcia at a fraction of the price of their other hoteis. It is only a boutique hotel but you get the same cool amenities.

Hotel Bourg Tibourg, 19 rue du Bourg-Tibourg, 4th Arrondisse-

ment, Metro-Hotel de Ville Le Martel. Forget about Momo in London. This

French-Algerian BUSINESS TRAVEL standing food at bistro takes the crown as the best hip North prices, 742 N La Saile in Chica-African restaurant Decorated unlike a casbah, enjoy your couscous and tagine with John Galhano or Vivienne Westwood at

the next table. Le Martel 3 Rue

Martel, 10th arrondissement, Metro-Chateau d'Eau rated in the neo-Louis XIV style, is the best bar to drink your kir toyale. Survey the scene in front of you and you get a cross section of fashionable Paris-Plaza Athenee 25 Avenue

Montaigne, 8th Arrondissement, Metro-Alma-Marceau Never leave Paris without having tea or at least buy their macaroons at Laduree. Taste the heav-

enly macaroons and you would

wish this is what Proust had in-

stead of the Madeleine Laduree- 16 Rue Royale, 8th

Arrondissement

Not to miss is Marche Aux Puces de Montreuil-the cheapest flea market in Paris for vintage ciothes. You have to trawl through pales and pales of clothing though but worth it for a fashionista. Metro Porte de Montreuil, open Monday-Saturday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.-Georgina Roberta, frequent business traveler, London, England

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"If we have the passion and the drive and can react appropriately to opportunity that comes our way, there could be many Henry Sys," she said

By Madonna T. Virola

PDI Southern Luson Bureau

TAGAYTAY CITY—From a tall grass-filled lot along 115 Aguinaldo Highway in Mendez Crossing here, the site of Bag of Beans has always been occupied by parked vehicles as the coffee shop has become a favorite destination for its coffee, chocolate and British bread and pies.

"Our products are right for the cold weather here," says owner Charito "Chato" Antiquera, 39.

Adding attraction to the Bag and Beans is its natural garden setting.

"I don't go for manucured garden," adds Chato, who also looks after a family of dogs and chimpanzee.

Samareña

A native of Samar, Chato finished Banking and Finance. But she has a penchant for cooking. "I experiment and do not depend on what is in the book," she says. Antiquera migrated to Tagaytay City upon the invitation of a friend.

After one year of office work in Manila, she went abroad. Within six years, she worked in Sheraton and Meridian in Dubai where she met British Eric Whitfield and his daughter, who were on vacation. Whitfield became her boyfriend.

"Eric did not let me go, especially when he learned that I live in Tagaytay where the climate is cooler like London."

Eric and Chato settled in Tagaytay and



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SAMARENA Chato Antiquera

thought of going into business, with coffee as its main attraction.

Their first chosen name for the business was Mr. Beans. But an earlier registrant with the Department of Trade and Industry had already used the name. So the couple instead made it Bag of Beans.

"It was difficult at first. We really borrowed money from the pawnshop for our capital. It was depressing," recalls Chato.

Their initial investment was P1,000. The couple conducted taste tests to determine which food to serve.

Growth

From a 200-square-meter leased lot she called the old beans, Chato expanded to a 700-square-meter business space, the new beans, when Eric passed away due to heart attack in 2001.

But Eric's death did not harm the business. Like the plants of Chato, which she gets from friends Popo San Pascual and Susan Meyer, the Bag of Beans prospered with her "handson management."

She implemented all that she wanted for the business.

"My friends told me that I'm so gutsy with the business set-up," says Antiqueta.

The business' capital has grown to 500 percent from its starting capital.

From one helper, there are already 22 fulltime workers. The renewal of rent for the old beans is monthly at P12,000 while there is a five-year contract for new beans at P10,000 per month, which will increase by 10 percent every year.

Just go on

Learn to start a beauty venture

sociation

Bag of Beans is open from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m. On weekends, it extends until midnight. "On weekends, our parking lot is full and per batch of customers reaches 200."

Chato names personalities like Manny Villar and his staff as among her valued guests.

"There are several takeouts. Our bestsellers among foreign guests are steak, kidney and mushroom pie," she added.

Some Chinese have asked Antiquers for a franchise at Greehills in Makati, "I am not yet

ready."

Several other people are interested in the Bag of Beans but according to Chato she is not ready to detach from it even if she is being invited by her American boyfriend

The ingredient of success according to Antiquera: "Don't worry when you start with a small capital, Just go on."

of Santo Tomas as co-organizer, in conaboration with Spa Association of the Philippines,

and Philippine International Haircutters As-

nities in beauty and wellness; feature an ex-

hibst of suppliers, manufacturers and service

providers; will have seminars and trainings on starting pup a beauty and wellness busi-

ness, on professionalizing and making your

business more profitable and diversifying

services you offer; will offer financial assis-

tance from banks and financial institutions;

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day to Sunday), at the Megatrade Hall

2, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City.

From page B2

in the industry.

The vision was to provide the discerning public with a professionally run salon with the backing of the Tom and Guy academy.

Chot and Cherry were in charge of operations and training the staff. Gonzalez was involved in coming up with the business plan, Cone's wife, Cris, provided inputs in customer service and Coscolinela executed the design for the salon to cater to its upper crust clients.

The happy shareholders just celebrated the first year of Toni and Guy's operations, and they have no regrets.

From their first 6750 branch, the group is looking to sign a franchise agreement to bring Toni and Guy to Alabang and in Fort Bonifacio.

"We consciously run this like a business,

not a mom and pop store," Reyes said.

He added that unlike other salons, Toni and Guy is not based on the reputation of certain stylists or makeinp arrists. It is about keeping with the value of the brand, which is about "educated" hairdressing.

Coscolluela said Toni and Guy was his first foray into designing a salon and it has been fun, and so is attending the board meetings.

The stockholders meet every quarter and Reyes said that it has not been difficult to settle business concerns, helping debunk the notion that friends should never get into business together.

"We never had to put things to a vote. We are able to settle things after discussing. Every one is free to speak his mind, and if it is an operations problem, it is usually Cherry's recommendation that we follow since she knows this business best," Chot said

The group is looking forward to more years in the business and are proud to say that they

are in the salon business.

"Where else can you look at financial statements while having a hot oil treatment," Gonzalez said.





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nosa@inquirer.com.ph

Making more than just a good investment at La Finca

ment. Miguel Mago is one to put it to good use. A year ago, he purchased a lot in La Finca Farm and Country Resort. When asked what made him opt for the residential farm development in Lips, Batangas, Mago was quick to say, " I took one look at the place and I knew at is worth every penny."

quality real estate investment until he ties, security and maintenance," shares came across a small advertisement of La Finca in the newspaper, " I already checked out similar developments but nothing compares to what I have seen here. It is ideal. Flat terrain, cool and quiet surroundings."

Mago, who has yet to build his second home at La Finca, is quite taken by its exclusive, modest community, " It is like being in a small town in the province. Everyone knows everybody. It is small but a closely-knit community."

He added that La Finca fosters good neighborly ties now lacking in most communities in the city, "I love being around people but in my home in Maniin, I hardly mingle with my neighbors. I guess it is because I have gotten used to not seeing or talking to them. But here, I get to enjoy my neighbors' company. They are just like family now."

Mago particularly likes it that resi-

IT PAYS to have an eye for good invest- dents treat each other as equals, "Stature does not really matter here. Everyone is on equal footing. We treat each other as it should be, as friends." This was exemplified when they put their heads together to organize a homeowners' association. Every resident plays a part in the overall management of the subdivision, "We have com-Mago has been on the lookout for a mattees tasked to oversee services, facili

> He further relates La Finca is quite manageable because it accommodates very limited number of residents, "I donot see this neighborhood becoming overly crowded unlike other big restdential developments. We all get to enjoy our privacy as well as the valued amenities being afforded us."

La Finca offers first-class resort amenities for the sheer emoyment of its residents and their families. It boasts of infinity and wading pools surrounded by an elegantly designed restaurant along with an al fresco nook, a spa and geam rooms as well as a magnificent view of Mount Malarayat.

Mago prides he could not ask for more at La Finca, "Everything is here. It is a home complete with resort amenities. When I retire I could sit here all day and do nothing. Just enjoy the breezy

He however, had one thing to do once he has settled in La Finca, "I would like to tend to my own farm. I already have one in my home province in Bicol. I do not mind having another one

Mago admits the investing on real estate means a big chunk off one's hard earned money or savings but the opporruruty of lot ownership at La Finca proved most tempting to pass up, "I know it is a good choice. This a great place for a home, very accessible plus it offers amenates comparable to Manula."

Given the extra funds, Mago is likely to put it on another lot at the place he has clearly come to love, "I have no regrets about buying into La Finca because it has everything rolled into one. Again, I must say it is one viable invest-

His advice to those looking for a wise investment, 'Just see for yourself what La Finca has to offer. But if you ask me, this is one investment that will not only pay off but also, a great place to call home '

For inquiries about La Finca Farm and Country Resort, please call 889-8588, 886-4004 to 06 or 889-9999, or fax at 889-9062 or visit www.lafin-



VENTURES / CHRISTMAT BATAAR

The Ventures 7 announced their forthcoming Christmas bazaar on Oct. 24 and Dec. 5 in launching caramonies held at the Mingoy's Restaurant, Fort Bonifacio. In photo are (from left) Farmy Blanco, Lita Gelano, Chit Gohu, Fortune Ledesma, Pille Aquino, Geiine Bautista and Linda V radelgado. For those interested to join the bazear, call 810-3307 or 372-3083-84,

Infostructure explores China market

THE CONCLUDED Apec E-Commerce fair held recently in Yantai, China opened windows of opportunates for infostructure - the country's leading Human Capital Management (HCM) software publisher

The event which discussed the participating countries' (such as the Philippines, Hong Kong, Malaysia, China, Russia, Indonesia, Korea, Taiwan, Thailand) experiences on information technology particularly on e-commerce, featured High-level forum on E-Commerce, Mayor's Forum on E-Government, CEO Summit, and Investment and Trade Cooperation Activities.

It also highlighted an exhibit, wherein many visitors who went to Infostructure's booth mostly owners and top managers of big companies - were very much impressed with iBOS/e WebShell's capability in building a company's portal and e-business system without programming. The eForms function of iBOS/e WebShell, particularly its routing capability that eliminates paper and makes form of approval online, has delighted a lot of visitors.

"We have achieved our mission in this fair," said Nilo Poso, CEO and chief software architect

of Infostructure. "We have explored a possible resellership deal with a big Singapore-based software distributor that has significant presence in Shanghal, Beijing and several cities in China. Very soon, we will introduce our software products perhaps following the footsteps of Jupiter Systems, another Filipino-owned software firm, which had introduced its software solutions in China about three years ago."

Infostructure has been in the industry for over 12 years now. Its flagship solution, infostructure HCM, currently powers the HR and payroll departments of more than 30 large companies in the Philippines. Among them are Texas Instruments, McDonald's, Del Monte, Philam Group, Bank of Commerce, CalEnergy, United Laboratories, New Zealand Milk and InfoNXX. The order versions of its software products run in about 175 of Philippines' top 1000 corporations.

Infostructure can be reached at 893-8844/892-3325, you may ask Ohvia Grace Alvaran er Juan Psolo Aquino er email infestructure@eenterprise.net or visit www.infostricture.com.ph.



GRAND REUNION HELD FOR US-BASED ARCHBISHOP

Philippine-based grade school classmates of Los Angeles Archbishop Rev. 'Ochie' Solis heid a grand reunion in his honor during his visit to San Lose Nueva Edija recently. Shown are (from left, foreground) Ligaya Ronquillo, Babes Munsayac-Tordes,ilas, Lerma Esteban-Reg naldo, Eva Mendoza-Leonardo, Loida Cabute, Armando Salvador, Pete Ramirez; (2nd row, seated, from left). Jingjing Villanueva-Romero, Mona Sajor

Imelda Hizon-Bajador, Bishop Ochie Solls, Marijun Ignaclo-Ma. ari, Tesste Infante-Caste o, Jojie Rueda-Backg Larma P',apil, Mei Aglibo, Cirillo Pagador, Mateo Lindain, Carlos Lia-

TANDUAY COMMENDED BY AMB. ARGUELLES

Ambassador Romeo Arguelles, our country's envoy to The Netherlands, conveyed his congratulatory notes to Tanduay for winning. four international Gold and Silver medals during the recently-concluded 2004 World Sefection of Liquors and Spirits of Monde Selection in Brussels, Beiplum. Shown are Wilson



Young, president of Tanduay Distillers (right) and Señor Faustino Munarriz, Tanduay's master blender (left), personally presenting the much-coveted awards to Ambassador Arquelles (center) in his office in Hague, The Netherlands.

Ramirez-Garcia, Violeta Antonio, (standing, from left) Voille Violago-San Buenaventura, Rosemar e Esteban-San Diego, Chito Sobrepeña, Danny Dantis, Jun Amboy, Rod Gatcheco, Rody mas, Jaime dei Rosario and Igmedio Vaidez.

PSHBT confab

THE PHILIPPINE Society of Rematology and Blood Transfusion (PSHBT) will hold its 34th Annual Convention on Sept. 8 to 10 at the Edsa Shangn-La Hotel. The theme for this year is "Hematology" Academe to the Budside" For more details, contact Let Hernandez at 924-3601 loc. 1050 / 0917-373-9535 or email pshotorg1960@yahoo.com

'The Maestro & His Music'

CONCERT at the Park opens its "Memorable September* today, at 5 p.m., featuring the UST Wind Orchestra, under the baton of professor Hermie Ranera, with visiting Fulpino trumpet player Rommel Reyes as soloist, in a program titled "The Meestro and His Music" Admission is free of charge. The public is cordially invited.

Corporate Meetings Fair '04

MAKAT! Shangri-La in cooperation with Meet Inc. presents Corporate Meetings Fair 2004, entitled "Meetings Exchange" on Sept, 8 to 9 at the Rizal Ballroom, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. interested parties may contact Bernni Concepcion of Meet Inc at (632) 436-6580, or Makati Shangri-La's events management. department at (632) \$13-8868 ext. 7476.

DAP-CQC workshops

THE DAP-CQC (Center for Quality and Competitiveness of the Davelopment Academy of the Philippines) will hold a series of workshoos on measuring quality and productivity entitled "Practical Approaches for Measuring Quality and Productivity Performance" on Sept. 7 to 9, 13 to 14. and 28 to 29. For reservations contact Maribeth Sanvictores at 631-2901 ioc. 129 or 631-2163

Canyon Woods turns 7

CANYON Woods Resort Club will be celebrating its 7th anniversary on Sept. 18. Numerous activities have been aned up. All homeowners and members are invited to join the festivities. For more details contact the Canyon Woods membership department at 521 7878

Ecop leads summit

THE EMPLOYERS Confederation of the Philis (Ecop) and the Personnel Management Association of the Philis (PMAP) wish to inform the public that the Employment and Industrial Relations. Summit held last Aug. 23 to 24 at the PTTC was spearheaded and led by Ecop. PMAP was a collaborating organization during the said affair. tasked to conduct and facilitate the Jobs Feir



Or Bayugo, MPH, Caso IV and director of the Center for Health Development-Metro Manila (CHD-MM) (3rd left in the picture), reiterated during the meeting on the Issuance of Permits to Operate Water Relifing Stations (WRS) the need for businessmen. wanting to venture into the WRS business to first secure, the Initial and Operational Permit at the DOH-CHD-MM office before constructing their water stores. The Water Quality Association Philis (WQAP)

is giving free assistance and consultation on how to secure the necessary permits. Interested parties may call 454-4666. Others shown in the picture (from left) are: Leoben Calara, sanitary inspector I i, Rodel Alegra, planning officer ., director Bayugo, Marilou Sumera, WOAP PRO and chair educational committes; Maricar Karilimdiliman, sanitary inspector and Sapi secretary. Rogello Pueblo: Sapi president and Jovito Deauna II. WOAP gresident.



2-DAY BAZAAR TO BENEFIT ASSUMPTION MISSION SCHOOLS

The Assumption Alamnae Association (HS) Class '75 and College Class '79) and the Assumption Family Council will hold the Red Plaid Sale, a pre-Christmas bazaar on Sept. 12 and Oct. 3, at the Hotel intercent nental in Ayata Ava, Makati. Benefic ar es of the fundraisIng project are the Assumption miss on schools and the faculty development projects of the Family Council For interested parties, call and look for Everly Aquino at 894-3561/894-3580 Major sponsors include ABS-CBN Lifestyle Channel and Selecta ,ce Cream



SEABOARD-EASTERN TODO SERBISYO

Seaboard-Eastern Insurance Co Inc delebrated recently the first anniversary of its Todo Serbisyo program. Shown during the anniversary celebration are (seated, from left) Jun Banzon Jr., executive vice president Noemi Sablaya, vice president and chief accountant, Jok Wullpresident, Lify Co. Chair

Bernie Tan, second senior vice president and comptroller, Lope Guaresma, first vice president, MIS; (standing, from left): Larry Wu, vice president, marketing, Jimmy Nicolas, first vice president, fire and engineering: Jun Reyes, vice president, internal audit. Vlade Dizori first vice president motor



tractive plastic containers are crystal clear, microwaveable and 100 percent recyclable. They have a unique anti-fog coat leature that is perfect for display in chillers and refrigerators. Leading bakeries, restaurants, and cafes use Worldform containers for their cakes, sandwiches, meals, salads and cold beverages." For inquiries on Worldform's food and beverage packaging line call 744-6191 or 722-4119.

Nips introduces wee wonders

IN A world where chaos and darkness prevail, hope comes in the form of three new colored superherces. Most the Nine inch Phenomenal Superheroes (Nips), protectors of children and adults atilia. This spariding trio came to Earth as babies aboard golden space pods that

These durable and #-



stid down three rainbows, to escape the war between their planet N Plune and the neighboring planet GloomDoom. The Nips make sure that Nipsville is atways a safe and colorful world to live in. You don't have to live in Nipsville to meet the Nine Inch Phenomenal Superheroes. You can experience the same burst of color every time you open a pack of Nips chocolate candles, with its rich chocolate covered with crunchy multi-shaded candy coating

People, Events Products

SRO at Tribute to Teachers

going Education secretary Edilberto de Jesus led over 6,000 teachers who gathered at the Philippine International Convention Center to pay tribute to the Filipino teacher in what is dubbed the largest gathering of the academic community.

Participants drove from as far as the flocos region in the north, braving floodwaters along the way, and from the Bicol region in the south. Participants from the Visayas and Mindanao also planed in to be counted among the throng.

"A Tribute to Teachers" is an annual event organized by the Bato Balani Foundation, a non-profit organization engaged in teacher training and research on Philippine education issues.

"The PICC's pienary half overflowed with teachers, and even the spillover rooms adjacent to the hall were filled up," observed William Fernando, executive director of the Foundation. "We were overwhelmed with the turnout and are grateful to all those who attended, despite the threat of getting rained out." A break in the

the Saturday event.

Guest speakers from the private secfor also extolled the Filipino teacher. PLDT Foundation president Butch Jimenez and businessman and author Francis Kong shared their sentiments and insights on the challenges of being a teacher

"Tribute" took exception to 4 "role models," exemplary teachers who could serve as an inspiration to other teachers. Dr. Milagros lbe, dean of Graduate Studies at Miriam College, combines her expertise in English and Mathematics to make math a less intimidating subject for many students.

Dr. Josette Biyo, a recent winner of the Intel Teaching competition and and the first Filipino honored with a planet being named after her, teaches science at the Philippine Science High School in Boilo. Her innovative approach to teaching has brought her students closer to their environment and the world.

Dr. Tess Calderon, dean of Humanities at the First Asia Institute of Technology and Humanines in Tanauan

SENATOR Francis Pangilinan and out- stormy weather cleared just in time for City, is featured in the Encyclopedia Britannica as the world's fastest reader, with a documented speed of 80,000 words per minute (laboratory conditions) She believes reading is the key to lifelong learning and a well-informed citizenty. She has embarked on a crusade to promote reading among students.

Dr. Onofre Pagsanghan has been teaching at the Ateneo de Manila University's High School department for over half a century and has been the creative force behind its theater arts group, recently renamed the Onofre Pagsanghan Theater. His unflagging energy and creativity has inspired many of his students to pursue their own careers in the same selfless zeal.

Bato Balani Foundation has provided teacher development training to over 80,000 teachers and school administrators. This enduring relationship with educators has been the inspiration to "A Tribute to Teachers." The event is sponsored by the Diwa Learning Systems, the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Microdata and Northgate Tech-

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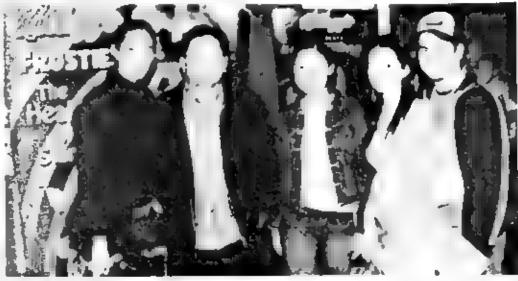
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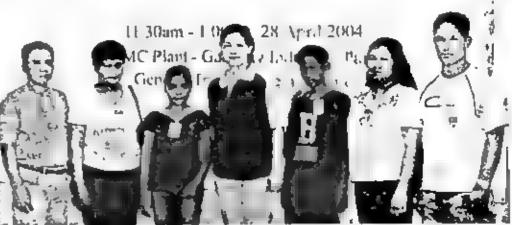
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KELLOGG'S JOINS SPIDER-MANIA

Kellogg's Breakfast Cereals, Columbia Pictures, with Magic 89.9 and FIX 93.1 Invited all kids of all ages for the Spiderman 2 Opening Day Cinema Treat last June 30. Guests and radio call-in winners were given this blockbuster treat as Kellogg's final activity, after the Spiderman Redemption Promo held in leading supermarkets. Actress and calebrity morn Angel Aquino graced the night with her lovely daughters, lana and Thea. Hard court dads Dondon Hontiveros. Boybits Victoria, Orsen Racela likewise enjoyed this brockbuster treat with their wives and healthy kids. Boom-Boom of the Jaboom twins, also joined in to ; watch the famous superhero back on screen. It sure was a fun evening; with free samples of Kellogg's given out to the guests after the movies,



UNILEVER FOODS AWARDS SCHOLARS IN CAVITE COMMUNITY

Uniferer Foods Philippines (CMC) launched its first community scholarship program near its factory site in Barangay Javalera, Gen. Trias, Cavite The scholarship program was conceived to help support deserving graduating students from the Javalera Elementary School by providing assistance with their High School education. Its first

scholars are Blanca Janine A. Romero (valedictorian) and Bernard Jasper A. Agdon (salutatorian) Bianca and Jasper will be supported by Unilever in their school of their choice. Photo shows unilever Foods Managing Director Eligen Araneta (center) together with the scholars and their parents during the MGA signing held at the Caville plant

CHILL'S HANDS OVER DONATION

Bartenders from Chili's branches Greenbelt 1, Tomas Morato and defending champion Chili's Greenhills recently participated in Chili's 3rd Annual Star Bar Challenge where they were able to raise PS0,000 for the Make a Wish Foundation, the



Mozcom launches business solutions at Stores Asia 2004

MOZCOM showcased their newly- by shines over competing products developed NetProfit line of business retail solutions at the recently held 13th National Retail Suppliers Exhibition at Edsa Shangn-La Hotel

The NetProfit line of next generation Point-of Sale (POS) Systems boast of being designed from the ground up with Internet and mobile connectivity in mind. Imagine having a POS that the business owner can access from anywhere and anytime using either an Internet web browser or a mobile phone's SMS or WAP browser. Reports are emailed directly or sent via SMS

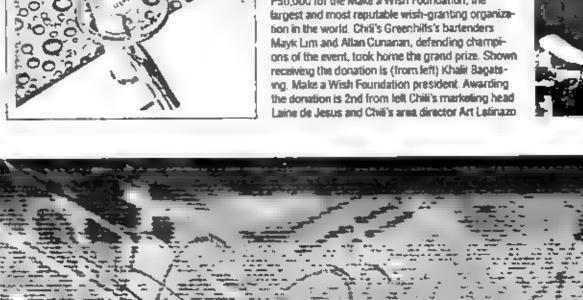
Fingerprint-based access forms the core of the POS security features. While supervisors have to do their override transactions with their fingerprints, the same applies for cashiers who must login using the said procedure. This eliminates repudiation of frauduent transactions.

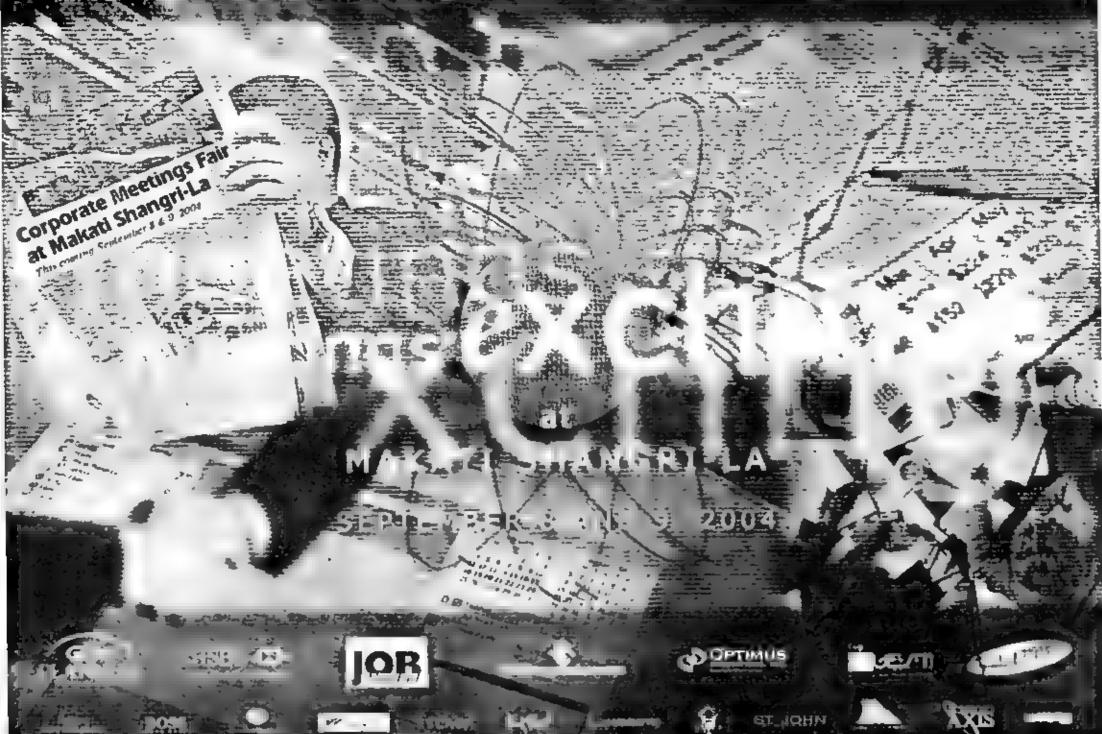
The power of this program real-

when it comes to sales data analysis. With its built in Online Analytical Processing (Olap) engine, decision makers can drill up or down into the details of the transactions. Data may be pivoted based on different dimensions like date, store, product code, product group and others. Aside from standard flatfile reports, the system also gener ates graphs and charts for easier

Also part of the NetProfit family is the Biometric TimeKeeper. Using unique fingerprint characteristics, the system ensures fraud-free attendance monitoring. The client/server design allows multiple offices or branches to consolidate their attendance data onto a single server for remote access via web browser or mobile phone.

For more information on Mozcom NetProfit, visit www.mozcom,com/netprofit or call 848-





On September 8 and 9, 2004 from 10-00am to 8:00 pm, Makatl Shangri La and MEET Inc. will transform the Rival Baltroom into the industry's largest merger of trend-setting deals and ideas, featuring a two-day seminar series where industry leaders will be sharing their experiences and expertise. Allow Makati Shangri-La's Events Team to introduce you to their Meetings Promise.

For more information, please contact the Makati Shangri-La Events Management Department at 8138888 extensions 7476 or 7475 or Bernni Concepcion of MEET Inc. at 426 0091 / 436 6580





Sunday BIZ Mixing natural and synthetic triples engineer's fortune

KIDAPAWAN CITY—Engineer Jose Riga was not surprised when after only three years of business, the assets of the medium-sized enterprise that he helped built here with P8 million in start-up capital almost triple to over P22 million today.

For him the success of Sea Crop, the only organic-synthetic mineral blended fertilizer producer in Central Mindanao today, is moving as he visualized and planned it.

Four months after it was established in 2000, the company only had gross sales of P73,000. As it approached its second year, sales went up to P5 million.

"It was all planned. With the investment of this much, we will get this much on a particular time." Riva says adding that on their third year of operation, their target gross sales was between P25 million and P30 million.

Perhaps Riga, who worked for a chemical company for 12 years before, is overly self-assured or just optimistic but he insist the company is gradually gearing to what he and his colleagues are shaping it to be.

R ght now, Riga says, over 40 percent of the banana growers in North Cotabato are being serviced by Sea Crop. Added to this is the fact that the multinational Cavendish banana grower Dole-Stanfilco entered into a partnership with them for the company's operation in Makilala town, while on the other sleeve is also a business link with another multinational agricultural company, Monsanto, which is into corn production.

Product attractiveness

And there are the small-scale farmers, whose number continuously grows, that directly buy their products.

But what made Sea Crop's product attractive not just with small time farmers but also gained the confidence of multinational agricultural corporations?

Sea Crop is a line of agricultur-



A MOUND of sugarcane bagasse used as one of the base substances of the fertilizer.

al fertilizers that is a blend of sea lions so far. products and synthetic minerals One of the sea products added to the blend is sea weed

Riga, a chemical engineer and a farmer, considers their line of products, each with specific usage on a particular growth of the crop, as the savior of the always flopping production of the farm

For many years, Riga said, the Philippines calls itself an agricultural country but failed or refused to open its senses to the fact that the country is too far off when it comes to technology and information, which could have made the lives of many Filipino farmers a lot better.

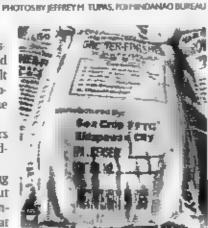
As the primary mover behind Sea Crop, he personally mastered the concoction or blend that earned the company mil-

It turned out that in most cases, the problem evolved around the farmers themselves as a result of lack of information and appropriate farming technology, he

For instance, he says, farmers would often blame the soil's acidity if their production flops.

True, the farmer's ranting about the soil's acidity is valid but what the farmers or even the concerned agencies fail to see is that the soil's acidity is an effect of the farmer's abuse and misuse of farm inputs

"But I am not saying that fertilizers are bad because they're really not that bad. The problem 15 the abuse and misuse of the fertilizers. We are an agricultural country but the information given to us are no longer applicable



THE FERTILIZER is now being used in five sites of Stanfilco operations in Makilala.

to this date. We are 20 years behind," he says.

Lost productivity

As he stresses that synthetic fertilizers are not that bad, stud-

ies and experience showed that ling more than 60 metric tons of 60 percent of productivity is lost because of use of inorganic fertil-

Their product, he says, is made up of 60 percent wastes—chicken dung, sugar mill products, and sea crops.

These components, he says, allow the soil to restore its condi-

He says he did not go away from the usual synthetic materials because of its proven benefits to the crops.

However, he adds, farmers should understand that fertilizers should be applied based on the specific needs of the crops.

"We need fertilizers that are crop specific and weather specific .. We have to address the probsynthetic fertilizers are beneficial," he says.

Sea Crop was born, Riga says, because of that unner feeling of concern to the thousands of farmers who do not have access to appropriate technology and information.

"My belief is that we could introduce change in farming. With the technology that we are employing now, I could assure people that we can produce bananas better than other provinces in manufacturing we also create terms of quality and nutrition. We can produce higher grade banana. with longer shelf-life," he says.

The products are also affordable. For instance a farmer could buy a bag of urea at P680 but it's counterpart in the Sea Crop ane of products is only P450 per bag.

For Riga, addressing the farmers' problem properly does not only mean "linking" with them but also physically being with them former armed combatants them as they conduct farm demonstrations and trainings, even spending millions for the activities and virtually getting norh ing in return.

The fertilizer is now being used in five sites of Stanfilco operations in Makilaia. In the provinces of North Cotabato and Davao del Sur alone, the company is supply-

sea crop products every month.

Recently, Riga closed a P9-million deal with another agricultur al company in Digos City while maintaining a partnership with a sugarcane corporation in Bukid-

"The increase of production and rise in a number of farmer buyers are only two of the barometers that indicated the success and level of efficacy of the products," Riga says.

While admitting that they did not get the support of concerned agencies like the Department of Agriculture, Sea Crop was able to secure assistance from the Department of Trade and indus-

Ferdinand Cabiles, senior lem but have to admit too that trade and industries development specialist, says they supported Sea Crop because of its capacity to manufacture and process raw materials and convert It to higher value products

"Utilization of local raw materials would lead to employment generation at the point of the supply of the raw materials would a. so create employment at the level of the conversion, processing and marketing," he says

"If we support processing and employment along I'me from the supply to the conversion of the raw materials and marketing of the final product. So if we create employment, we provide income and then income would translate into spending-buying more goods so there will be more economic activity in the area." Cabiles says.

Around 50 people, most of of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), are employed by Sea Crop as raw material gather-

As Sea Crop's success become more and more evident, Riga says expansion to other areas of the country is now being considered Jeffrey M. Tupas, PDI Mindanao Bureau



Autohaus BMW * 184 E. Rodoguez Jr. Ave., Libis, Quezon City * Tel. (0.2) 6.38 3734 * Fax (0.2) 4.59 0419. Performance Auto BMW * Magallanes St. Cebu City * Tel. (0.32) 256 3491 * + zx (0.32) 256 3491 * + zx

Quiet economic revolution sweeping Cordillera

By Maurice Malanes PDI Northern Luzon Buredu

(First of two parts)

MALIBCONG Abra-A quiet economic revolution, which relies not on the barrels of guns is sweeping Corditiera's hinterlands such as this upland hometown of two famous rebels.

A seven hour rough road drive from Abra's provincial capital of Bangued, this remotest hinter land town of Abra is the birthprace of the rate rebei priest Conrado Balweg and his ideo ogical enemy and younger brother Jovencio of the New People's Army, armed wing of the Communot Party of the Philippines

For poctical differences. Father Batweg in 1986 left his comrades in the NPA and helped form the Cordi lera Peopie's Liberation Army or CPLA, which has since made peace with the government While seeking to reunite with

his family here after almost 13 years of absence. Balweg in December 1999 was killed by his former comrades in the NPA. Jovencio, on the other hand,

has remained with the NPA, helping fight for what is now the longest Maoist guerrilla insurgency in Southeast Asia

But while the CPLA and the NPA continue to fight for what they believe are noble causes worth dying for, another revolution, which relies on the color of money, is sweeping this birthplace of the Balwegs.

This other brand of revolution is a small savings and loans financing system inspired by Bangladesh's Grameen or valage

Introduced by personnel of the Central Cordinera Agricultural Program or Cecap, the system has taught and encouraged villagers to save and later borrow some amount for their basic and emergency needs such as tuition for children, hospital bills, and food

Pooled savings and the loans



MANY Abra villagers are putting their savings together to set up profitable businesses.

that members could avail of also paved the way for village-based businesses such as small lending, hyestock raising and consumer

A European Union and Department of Agriculture joint project, Cecap's second phase began in 1996 and ended in July this year. But Cecap's personnel, who introduced the small savings and loans financing system, are confident the seeds they had sown will continue to germinate and bear fruit even after Cecap ended

P10-weekly savings

Former Cecap rura: finance per sonnel see promise in the small savings and loans groups (SSLG), which they helped organize in Malibeong's Duidulao village and which eventually metamorphosed into a multi-purpose cooperative

The thriving Duldidao Multipurpose Cooperative started small It began with the basic unit

of small rura, financing system called savings and loans group or SLG, which is composed of five to 15 members.

Since February 1998, Cecap had helped form six SLGs in Duldulao, which had 33 members. Depending on a group's consensus, a member of each SLG was required to save P10 weekly, and after 12 weeks, he or she could loan P200 to P250 at 5 percent monthly interest

Other SLGs agreed that each member would save P25 each 12 weeks But most members of the six SLGs eventually reckoned that if they relied solely on their P10 or P25 weekly savings, they could not grow as fast as they would like to. They also factored in the iso attort of their village.

During the rainy and typhoon months from July to October, the Abra River and its major tributaries swell, making it impossible of residents,

for passenger jeeps to travel from Malibeong to Bangued

The Abra River, which becomes almost a kilometer wide during continuous heavy downpour, sepgrates Malibcong and other upper Abra towns from Bangued. the only commercial center in the province.

To cross the bridgeless Abra River, vehicles are transported on steel rafts. But the rafts are helpful only during summer when the river is smail and gentle.

So like ants and bees, Malibweek and could loan P500 after seong and other upland folk would store as much basic goods such as salt, cooking oil, matches, some dried fish and canned goods during summer when they could travel to Bangued.

But given their smal, income, they could only store so much. Not even the three existing sarisan or variety stores in the vihage could provide all the basic needs

Given all these factors, most indigenous value of huangayen members of the six SLGs in Duldulao village resolved it was time. for them to put up their own con-

In June 2000, 25 members of the various SLGs or savings and loans groups ponied an initial capital of P15 000 and put up what they called the Duldulao Consumers Group or DCG which began selling basic commodities at reasonable prices

In no time, neighboring villagers outs de Duldulao would come to buy at DCG's variety store. Besides its consumer store, the DCG continued its emergency loan services, extending to each member at least P1 000 in loan with 2 percent monthly interest

Members usually avail of this loan for emergency needs such as tuition for children, med cines, ferr iters and seeds to plant. The DCG consumer store continued to grow and was eventually converted into what is now called the Duiduiao Multi-purpose Cooperative or DMPC, which was officially registered with the Cooperative Development Authority on Aug 5, 2003.

"Our cooperative is now our fa lback, especially during the typhoon months," says Henry Dayaoen, a farmer and current manager of the cooperative

Growing slowly but surely, the DMPC reported assets of P196,348 in September 2003. The cooperative's total asset could now run to more than P200,000, said cooperative treasurer Henry de la Cruz when the INOUTHER and some Cecap personnel visited the cooperative last

Cultural factor

The cooperative's phenomenal success could be attributed largely to the community folk's cultural value of parnuayen or cooperation and unity, says Artemio Saiimbay, the cooperative's board

He also cites the community's

which refers to the Tinggian folk's terracity, perseverance and persistence to rise above their current status also through their coopera-

Through our cooperative, we can show to the rest of the wood that our tradition of upity and cooperation can make a difference in our own lives," says Sal mbay.

Earlier people in Land aid had generally lost trust in backs my cooperatives after two cooperatives in a neighboring village were doing well at first and eventually went bankrupt

"But we seek to learn from their failures," says Solimbay

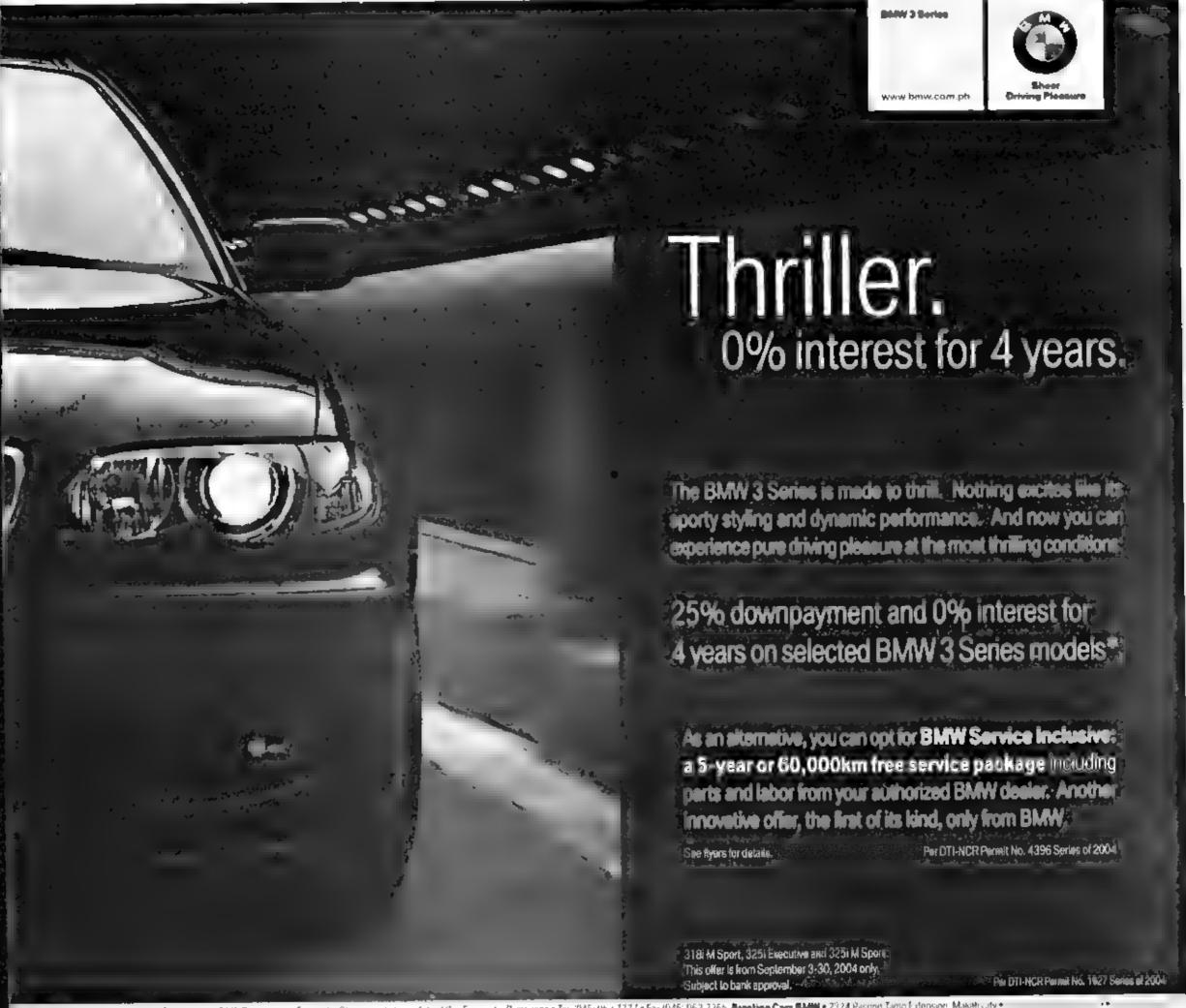
Leaders and members of the cooperative have every reason to be upheat about the force.

"As long as we strictly follow teview and update our cooperative policies, there is every resions for us to grow and prosper " says board director Aldrin Abans, as he stresses on a policy of transparency to ensure checks and balances within the cooperative

Another secret, says vice chair Biatriz Moana, is continuing education about managing cooperatives and learning skills such as bookkeeping and simple account

All simple farmers raising rice, vegetables and backyard live stock and poultry, DMPC members and leaders are optimistic that their cooperative can be come a milionaire in due time "This is not impossible given the right management and the right attitude and discipline of both of ficers and members, not to men tion our culture of unity and cooperation as a people," says Dayaoen.

The Duidulao cooperative is just one of the many "success stories" of seemingly hopeless and powerless hinterland folk, who, if given the opportunity, can pool their small money and establish enterprises such as a cooperative to help free them from the pover-



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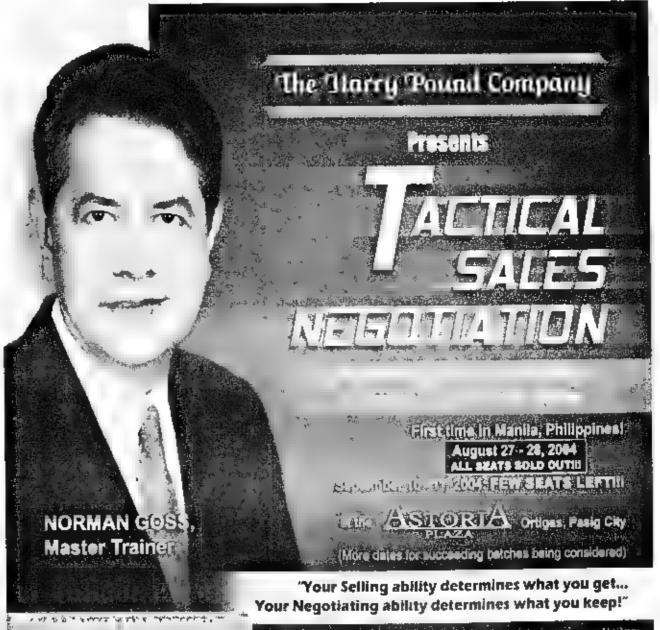
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equals and subordinates to onsure that gaming standards are strictly Good toam player

Knowledge in Mandarin language is an advantage.

JUNIOR SURVEILLANCE OFFICER QUALIFICATIONS:

Preferably with one to two years Casino related experience with minimum of

one year actual dealing (lable games) experience and/or working knowledge in Casino Treasury

College graduate of any course: Knowledge of conducting investigations and report writing is an advantage, Keen observer

Strong analytical ability;

Good oral and written communication skills,

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Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corporation Responding Through Responsible Gaming

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enable to a State Secretary managinal breation of the Education

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID ITB NO.: 08-03-2004

The Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) is inviting all interested bidders in its forthcoming public bidding for the project stated hereunder.

One (1) lot Janitorial Service for CF-Angelos Required Personnel: 57 janillors

Approved Budget : Seven Million Five Hundred Twenty Seven Thousand Four

Hundred Twenty Six Pasos & 80/100 (P 7,527,426.84)

Source of Funds Internally Funded

Only contractors duly registered with PAGCOR may be allowed to participate in the bidding. Unregistered contractors must register at the Suppliers Registration & Evaluation Section (SRES), Procurement & Property Department (PPD), 2nd Floor PAGCOR House, 1330 Roxes Blvd., Ermita, Manila, Tel. No. 526-0573 or at the Branch Procurement and Property Office, CF-Angeles, Balibago, Angeles City (945) 892-5073-74 / 625-7597

The detailed project particulars and instructions to bidders are discussed in the Bid Documents available for issuance from August 25, 2004 to September 20, 2004 at the BAC Secretarial, Procurement and Property Office, Corporate Office or at the Branch Procurement and Property Office, CF-Angeles upon payment of a nosrelundable fee of One Thousand Peacs (Php 1,000.00). In order to secure the documents, bidders should present the Official Receipt Issued by our Cashier to the BAC Secretary handling the project.

Pre-Bid Conference : September 7, 2004

Opening of Bida

Bubmission of Bids : September 21, 2094 : September 21, 2004

(2:00 pm onwards)

(2:00 pm)

VENUE: Meeting Room, Mezzenine, Casino Filipino-Angeles, Belitago, Angeles City PAGCOR has the right to disqualify any prospective bidder if found that they have submitted faisified documents and/or information, and the right to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, to waive any defects or formalities found therein and to accept such bid or a part thereof as may be deemed most advantageous to PAGCOR, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

PAGCOR reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract if there is prima facia evidence of collusion between appropriate public officers or employees of the agency, or between the BBAC and any of the bisklers, or if the collusion is between or among the bidders themselves, or between a bidder and a third party, including any act which restricts, suppresses or rutilies or lands to restrict, suppress or nutitly competition, or if the BBAC is found to have falled to follow the prescribed bidding procedures, or for any justifiable and reasonable ground where the raised of the contract will not redound to the benefit of the government (R.A. 9184, Sec. 41).

Please address all communications to the Branch Bids and Awards Committee, Casino Filipino-Angeles, Balibago, Angeles City.

(Sgd.) ERLINDA M. YENKO Champerson, BBAC-Angeles

(PDI-August 29 & Sept. 5, 2604)



PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER East Avenue, Quezon City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY & TO BID

Interested suppliers/dealers are invited to apply and bid for 2 lots supply and Installation of new passenger elevators.

The approved budget for this bidding is PS.0 million.

The winning bidder shall deliver the requirements within ninety (90) calendar days upon signing of contract.

Interested bidders must not be related to the head of the procuring entity or any member of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) or BAC Secretariel either by consangulally or allimity up to the third civil degree

Prospective bidders may secure eligibility requirements and bid documents from the BAC Secretariat office, 8th Fir., MAB, PHC East Ava., Guezon City after payment of a non-relundable bidding lee of five thousand (P5.000.00) pascs. For any inquiry, please call BAC Secretarist Office at Tel. No. 925-24-01 toc. 3986 ask

I. PRE-BID CONFERENCE

The pre-bit conference shall be on 14 September 2004 at 1:30 p.m., Pacemaker Room, Basement, MAB, PHC, East Ave., Duezon City.

L SUBMISSION OF ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS The legal requirements for eligibility of prospective bidders must be personally

p.m., BAC Secretariat Office. 8th Floor MAB. PHC, East Ave., Quezon City.

Bids of eligible bidders will be accepted and opened in the presence of bidders or their representatives on 5 October 2004, at 1/30 p.m., Pacemaker Room, Basement, MAB, PHC, East Ave., Quezon City

The BAC reserves the right to reject any and all bids waive any defects or Informalities therein, or accept any bid/s or offer/s which if may consider

advantageous and beneficial to the government., 3 September 2004

(Sgd.) MARCIANO F. BATDULA Vice Charman, BAC

(PDI-Sept. 5 & 12,2004)

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REGISTRATION OF CANADIANS

Notice to Canadians

Casadian citizens residing in the Philippines are invited to register with the Consular Section of the Canadian Embassy. This information is useful in cases of emergencies. It is confidential and cannot be given to third parties, including other Government Departments.

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It is insportant that registration records be up-to-date. If you change your address or telephone number, or if you leave the country, please inform the Consular Section of the Embassy.

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Monday to Thursday 9:00 a.or. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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Republic of the Philippines. Department of Health OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY CENTRAL OFFICE BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (Bidg. #6, San Lazaro Compound,

Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, 1003, Manta, Philippines Tel. no. (632) 743-63-01 Local 1601, Web address: www.doh.gov.ph

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Department of Health (DOH) received funding from the Commission of Information and Communication Technology for the development of the Drug Test operation and Management Information System wherain twenty seven million and six hundred thousand pesos (P27,600,000) has been apportioned as the approved budget of contract (ABC).

Major components of the project includes: system and process reengineering, system and software development, establishment of the central database storage and back-up facility, and systems implementation and mainterence.

The DCH hereby invites firms with the expertise and at least 3 years experience reinvant to the project requirements to apply for eligibility and for shortlisting, triterested bidders may download requirements from the DOH website or inspect the bid documents starting September 8, 2004, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Further information may be obtained from the Central Office Bids and Awards Committee (COBAC) Secretariat namely, Ms. Coney Liberantide, Debote Rabi at 1/F Building 6, DOH, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz Manda, Tel. No. 743-8301 local 1214 or 1601 respectively or send an ermil to celiberan@co.doh.gov.ph or lacsimile to 711-6061/711-8273.

A complete set of bid documents may be purchased by interested bidders upon submission of a letter of intent and upon payment of non-relundable fee of ten thousand peans (PhP19.000) peans. Deadline for submission of a letter of treat and eligibley & shortlisting requirements is on September 24, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. at the COBAC Conference Room.

A pre-bid conference will be held on September 29, 2004 at 9:00 am at the COBAC Conference Room, Only shortisted consultant will be invited to submit a proposal not later than October 25, 2004. The proposal shall be evaluated using a quality-cost based procedure at 60/40 weight in layor of technical. Only lachnical proposal with 75% rating will be considered for further evaluation. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security valid for ninety (90) days equivalent to 1% of the ABC if in the form of certified check, cashler's check, manager's check, bank draft continued by a reputable local bank or 1.5%, it in the form for a hank guarantee confirmed by a reput

The Department of Health reserves the right to accept or reject any bid and to annua the building process and/or reject all bulls at any time prior to award of contract without thereby incurring any liability to the affected builder or builders or any obligation to inform the affected builder or builders of the grounds to the Department

> By Authority of the Secretary of Health. (Sgd.) ALEXANDER A. PADELA Undersecretary of Health Chargerson, COBAC

(POI - September 5 & 12 2000)



NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION South Luzon Operation & Maintenance

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BED

The Metional Transmission Corporation, South Luzon O&M Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) wishes to invite interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid on the decis listed below

DATE OF BIDDING: SEPTEMBER 29, 2004; 1:30 PM

ITEM DESCRIPTION PR NUMBER SCHEDULE

BUDGET 3CNA04-121 P 6,000,000,000 A1 2 UNITS SEE POWER CIRCUIT BREAKER

3SL-04-062 P 3,924,000.00 CAMERA, OCTV MONITORS AND 7 OTHERS FOR SURVEILLANCE NOTE: A Pre-Bidding Conference for Schedules A1 and A2 will be held on September

17 2004, 1:30PM at the OAVP Conference Room. Complete sets of Application Form for Efigibility and Bid Documents may be obtained from the Office of the Manager, Administration Division, SLOBM, Sen Vicanie. Binan.

Laguzes, upon physicant of a non-refrandable fee of P500.00 per schedule starting Sept striber 07, 2004. No bid documents will be issued on the date of bidding. Bids will be received at the Conference Room (CAVP), Yransco-SL OSM. San Vicente,

Blifam, Laguna until the specified date and time of bedding above after which said bids will be opened in the presence of attending bidders.

Prospective fidders shall signify conformance to bidding terms and conditions as required and shall ensure the same through proper submission/execution. The procurement rules and regulations used in this transaction shall be in accordance with the implementing rules and regulations of "R.A. 9184" The Bidder shall turnish as part of his bid, a bid security in the amount equivalent to al-

least 1% of the approved budget in the form of Cash. Manager's/Cashier's Check, Certified Check, Bank Draft, or 1.5% of the approved budget in the torns of Bank Guarantee, or 2.5% of the approved budget in the form of Surety Bond, penal and callable on demand issued by GSIS or a Screey or Insurance Company accredited by the Office of the Insurance Commission. The Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annual the bidding

process and reject all bids at anytime prior to award all contract, without thereby incurring any leability to the effected bidder or bidders or any obligations to inform the effected bidder or bidders of the grounds for the basis of such action.

TRANSCO-South Luzzor's other requirements are posted at the DBM Website. www.procuremeniservice.net and at the TRANSCO Website: www.transco.ob

APPROVED

(PD1-September 5, 1004)

(Sgd., G. R. LISTANO St O8M

PLAREB real estate seminar

The PARANAQUE-Las Pinas-Alabang Realtors Board (Plareb), the largest constituent board of the Philippine Association of Realtors Board Inc (Pareb), and consistent producer of topnotchers for the Real Estate Brokers heensure exams will conduct its 42nd Comprehensive Real Estate Seminar and Review for Brokers exams. Monday, Wednesday and Friday 6 to 9 p.m. starting Oct, 20 to Nov. 5 at Max's · Restaurant, Sucat Road (across Park and Shop midway McDonald and SSH), Paranaque City. Topics covered are in accordance with the recommendations of the BTRCP for passing the government licensure examination for real estate brokers to be held on Nov. 28. The seminar covers various topics relevant to real estate practice such as Licensing Regulations for Realty Service Practice; Real Estate Brokerage Principles and Practice; The Condominium Concept; Subdivision Laws and Procedures; Joint Ventures Agreements; Real Estate Taxanon, Financing and Appraisal; Fundamental of Property Ownership; Urban and Agrarian Reform; Contract Documentation and Registration; Legal Aspects of Sale, Mortgage, Lease; Real Estate Mathematics and General Review on Past Examination Ouestions. Lecturer-reviewer is Ruben B. Palacio, Jr., lawyer, licensed real estate broker, appraiser and consultant. Interested parties may contact Lita or Fely at the Plareb office with tel. nos. 825-0942/43 or CP 0918-939-1317 or at 3A Acacia, Westmont Village Condominium, Sucat Road, Paranaque City (across Liana's Supermarket or at Goldhouse Realty Corporation, Unit K, Aguitte corner Tirona, BF Homes, Paranaque City with tel. no. 807-5081 and #59 Dona Soledad Avenue, Better Living Subd. Paranaque City with tel, no. 823-7668.

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interested parties are required to submit a Letter of Intent (LOS) to the Chalipperson. SMI-II Procurement, Bids and Awards Committee (BMHI-PBAC) at the Small Combrance Room, Main Lobby, BCOA Corporate Center, 2/F Bonifacto Fechnology Center, 31st Street comer 2nd Avenue, Crascent Park West, Borelacto Grobal City Taguig, Metro Manila, on or before 12:00 NN of September 5 - 10, 2004. The Deputition for the automission of LOt is on 12:00 NN of iber 10, 2004. The LOI should state the following information:

Company's name, address and nature of business, and Contact person directly employed by the company, and contact latephone A9 interested suppliers shall secure a copy of the Bidding Documents for a nonrefundable tee of ONE THOUSAND PESOS (Php1,000.00) at the above maniformed address, on or before 12:00 NN of September 10, 2004.

The Proposals shall be accepted on or before 12:00 NN and opened in the presence of the proponents or their authorized representatives at 1.30 PM on September 29, 2004 at the above-mentioned address. BASH reserves the right to roject any or all bid proposals, waive any delects or

informables therein, or accept any bid/s or offerts which may be advantageous

For additional information or clarification, please call Mr. Bryan S. Pebueten of the

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION

BMH-PBAC Technical Working Group at 616-0959 or 616-1348 (Sod.) GLORIA GEORGINA DJ. JOTA

and beneficial to the government.

(POt-Aug. 29 & Sept. 5, 2004)

ON GOOD GOVERNMENT Regional Office 8 Tarloban City INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

8. Invites interested parties to participate in the sealed bidding for the lease of the ground floor of the People's Center and Library located at Real St., Tacloban City as venue for "CHR-STMAS BAZAAR" trade exhibit from November 15, 2004 to January 15, 2005. The bidding guidelines will be available at PCGG Office, Asset Management Department, 3rd Floor, IRC Building, 82 EDSA Mandaluyong Cây and at the PCGG Regional Office, Nipa Hut, Jones St., Tacloban City, starting September 6, 2004. For Inquiries, please

The Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG), Region

contact Mr. Alfredo dela Paz at Telephone Nos. 728-0034 and 725-6958 and Mr. Renor O. Daizag at Telephone No. (053) 321-3413. Pre-qualification requirements should be submitted on or before September 15, 2004, while bids will be received, opened and tabulated at 10:00 A.M. on September 20, 2004 in the presence of the bidders at the PCGG Office, Asset Management Department, 3rd Floor, IRC

Building, 82 EDSA, Mandaluyong City. (Sgd.) RENOR O. DAUAG Officer-In-Charge PCGG, Region 8

Tacioban City

(PDI-Bupt. 2.4 & S, 2004)

MOCOS NORTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. Suyo, Dingriss, flocos Norte, PHILIPPINES 2913

Tel. No. (077) 784-75-46 & 47; 784-71-25 & Fau No. (077) 784-71-25

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION AND FOR BLDS The llocos Marte Electric Cooperative, Inc. has applied for a loan from the Development Bank of the Philippines to finance the construction of its 69 KV power line

and invites electrical contractors who are PCAB registered to apply for pre-qualification

The project includes the lumishing of labor and materials for the construction of about 37 Idemeless of 69 KV line along the national highway in the Province of focus Norte. interested contractors may obtain their pre-qualification forms and bid documents from

the INFC main office starting September 14, 2004. Pre-qualification documents must be received by this office not later than September 26, 2004. Only those pre-quained shall be invited to bid for the project. TVEC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any defect or informality, assume

no obligation whatsoever of indomnity to the bidders any expense or loss that the bidder may incur in the preparations of its bid and to accept the bid most advantageous to INEC. (Sgd.) RENATO A. BALINTEC PEE

P8AC Chairman

(PDI - September 4 & 8, 2004)

and to submit bids for the said project.

sion from Ayala to the ferry landing in

Escolta, Manila. The blessed "Ina" will be

carried on foot from the ferry landing, by

female devotees to the Manila Cathedral for

Peñafrancia Fiesta in Metro Manila

ONCE again the Peñafrancia Fiesta of Our Ayala Bridge, Manila for the fluvial proces-Lady of Peñafrancia of the Bicol region will be celebrated by her devotees in Metro Manila starting Thursday, Sept. 9. The image will be brought to St. Andrew Parish Church at N. Garcia, Reposo, Bel Air, Makati from RGC Bidg. Apo St., Mandaluyong City Tridium of masses and novenas will be

said from Sept. 9, 10 & 11 at 6 p.m.

The image of Our Lady of Penafrancia, On Sept. 12, a special mass will be said

the 6 p.m. solemn high mass.

to whom a number of miracles have been attributed, is a replica of the original venerated at the Sierra de Peña de Francia in the province of Salamca, Spain. She was enthroned as the reat St. Andrew at 12 p.m. after the mass a gional patroness of the Blcol region 80 motorcade will start at 2.30, carrying the years ago on Sept. 16, 1924. image up to the Embarcadero Point on

runk Line (832) 848-2334 to 31

DOM: P245 per column centimeter

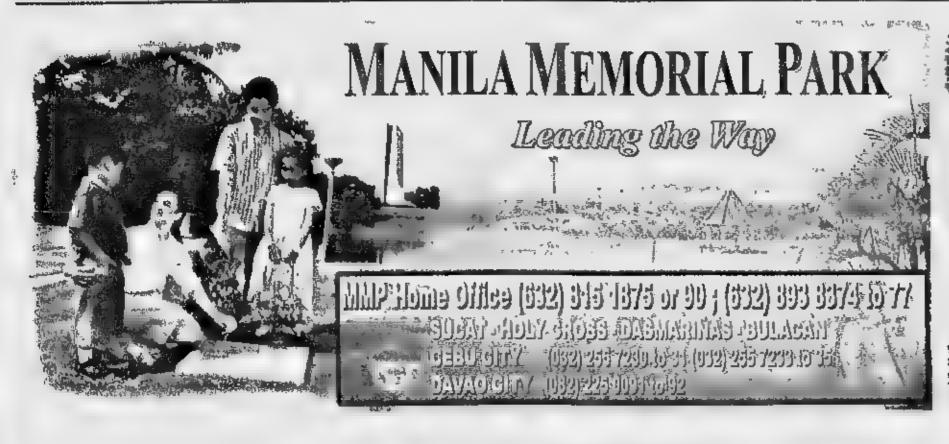
(All prices exclusive of E-W(T)

DEADLINE

for reservations / cancellations / corrections Monday to Sunday 12 00 noon Day before publication



Sharing finds with all the control of the control o



ROBERT

Died: September 93, 2004 at the age of 49.

His bereaved wife Carmen, mother Milagros P. Casado, children Roma & Ferdle Veruyo, Rovi, Ryan & Randy; grandchildren Kim, IV & Rinon; brothers Remy, Raffy & Mike; sisters Ruby, Marilyn, Gerry & Tippi request your prayers for the eternal repose of his

His body hes in state at Loyola Memorial Chapels, Guadasupe, His remains will be cremated on September 07, 2004 at 12:00 noon.

CLASSIFIEDS



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo Quezon City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND THE

The Armed Forces of the Philippines invites all interested oil producers/suppliers of petroleum products to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid for the SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF PETROLEUM OIL AND LUBRICANTS (POL) requirements of the AFP for one (1) year with an estimated budget of ONE BILLION FIVE HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (P1.5B) chargeable against the FY-2005 AFP POL Budget.

Only bids from manufacturers and exclusive suppliers/distributors of said product shall be entertained.

The bid documents shall only be available for issuance starting September 06, 2004 until September 20, 2004 during office hours at DND BAC Secretariat, AFP Logistics Command, Camp General Emilio Aguinaido, Quezon City. The bid documents shall be issued upon payment of THIRTY THOUSAND PESOS (P30,000.00), which is not refundable.

A Special Power of Attorney, issued by the prospective bidder authorizing its representative to purchase the bid documents in its behalf, shall be required before assuance of the said documents.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on October 07, 2004 at 9:00 AM (local time) at the Silid Panday Pira, 1st Floor Bulwagang Mabini, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City Bidders may submit their queryles, if any, in writing to the BAC Secretariat not later than three (3) working days prior to the Pre-Bid Conference.

Deadline for Submission of Eligibility Requirements and Bid Envelopes will be on October 19, 2004 at 9:00 AM (local time) to be immediately followed by the Opening of Bids at the Silid Panday Pira, 1st Floor, Bulwagang Mabini, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines reserves the right to reject any or all bids based on the grounds for disqualification specified in FA 9184 without assuming any obligation whatsoever for expenses or losses that may be incurred by the bidder(s) in the preparation of the bid.

> (Sad.) ASEC JOSE N FERRER JR Chairman DND-BAC

(PDI - Beptember 5 & 12, 2004)







Notice is hereby given that the application of A.P. INOCENCIO FARMS will office address at Pantay-Buhangin Road, Bo. Pantay-Datig, Teresa, Rizal for registration with the Board of investments under Book I of the Ominibus Investments Code of 1987, otherwise known as E.O. 226, as Amended, as Existing and Expanding Producer of Poultry at the following

Existing and Expansion - 3,000,000 Day-old-chicks

Existing and Expansion — 20,000 Pullats per year with project site of same office address stated above has been officially accepted on August 27, 2004.

Arry person with valid objections to or peninent comments on the acove-mentioned application may be his/her objection. In writing under cash, with the SOI within one (1) week from the dele-

issued this 27" day of August 2004.

(Sgd.) SUDY B. CAÑA Officer-In-Charge Project Evelopion and Registration Department





ARNULFO A. MAKILAN Criminal Case No. 04-2371

warrant of arrest has been issued by the RTC-NCJR Branch CLVXXII (148) on Arnulfo A. Mek inn whose picture appears here, for the crime of ESTAFA under Art 315 par 1 of the Revised Pensi Code, City of Makab. His last known address are Matangsang II-F Imus, Caville and 1901 Saint Niño Villamonte, Bacolod City Please contact 02-8121601 to 05 for any information regarding the subject.

(POI - Beplander 5, 2004)

Cut & clip



GALING PILIPINO MOVEMENT (GPM) is a non-profit, private sector initiative of citizens committed to recognize, affirm and propagate what is good and excellent about being PILIPINO to develop a culture of excellence and a commendable sense of national pride as a value-centered foundation for nation-building. Itaguyod natin ang Galing Pilipino!

September 2004 Calendar of Events

GP YOUTH KAPIHAN

old alikel

8am to 11am, Saturday, September 11, 2004 Chowking-Pioneer, Mandaluyong City

Do you recall when your moms and dads tell you about how they used to make their own toys and home decors from leaves and other items from the backyard? In Galling Arts & Crafts, young mother Rheeza Hemandez, a native of Bulacan, teaches us about preserving the vanishing art of "puni" an indigenous way of creating décors, toys and utilitarian home items using coconut and nipa leaves. This craft-making session is for the young and Free registration. Brunch courtesy of Chowking.

SEMINAR

Barn to 5pm, Saturday, September 18, 2004 Chowking-Pioneer, Mandaluyong City

BABUYAN NA HINDI AMOY BABOYI Innovative Galing Pilipino seminar conducted by Mr Andry Lim. Attend this seminar & find out how to raise pigs... WALANG HUGAS, WALANG LIGO, WALANG BAHO! Learn how to grow CHEMICAL-FREE FRUITS & VEGETABLES. And know how to make concoctions using natural ingredients found in your backvard.

Seminar Fee: P500,00 for GPM members, P1,000.00 for non-members



Galing Housekeeping Seminar Hosted by Victoria Group of Companies of a well-run home

I-PEX Training Center, Hotel Victoria de Malate, Manila GPM's eco-agro tourism program, BISITA PILIPINAS, will enlist private homes, preferably ancestral houses, whose owners and caretakers are willing to participate in the development of a local bed & breakfast homestay. program. Learn the techniques of quality housekeeping... find out how to make beds ala hotel style. know the proper use of cleaning aids... AND MORE! Awell-kept house speaks

Seminar Fee: P100.00 for GPM Members, P200.00 for non-members

GP KAPIHAN

8am to 11am, Saturday, September 25, 2004 Chowking-Ploneer, Mandaluyong City

Pilipinos are born creative. Jon us in our Linang ng Lahi Kapihan and hear from our speakers, historians and expens, the inherent artistry of our indigenous folks on pottery. weaving, basketry, jewel craft and other forms of art. Find out where can we find the remnants of these Pilipino treasures Let us discover these rich creations of our ancestors and, how it influenced our present generations.

Registration is FREE. Brunch courtesy of Chowking.



A STANDARD BANK For particulars call GPM Foundation Inc. @ (02)633.1089 or (02)631.3932 or log on to www.galingpiliping.com



DA CHIEF LAUNCHES AND SELLS NFA'S IRON-FORTIFIED RICE

Agriculture Secretary and former National Food Authority Administrator

Arthur C. Yap sells packs of iron-fortified rice during the launching of the NFA program at the Commonwealth Market in Quezon City recently. Paggad at P21 per kilogram, NFA's iron-fortified rice is of pramium grade variety and sold in 2-kilogram packs. The program is in compliance with Republic Act 5976 or the fron Fortification Program which requires mandatory fortification of staples such as rice, sugar, flour, coolding oil by November this year.



IN COMMONWEALTH MARKET

Photo shows Department of Agriculture Secretary and former National Food Authority Administrator Arthur C. Yap (second from right), showing a pack of the NFA's iron-fortified rice during the faunching of the program at the Commonwealth Market recently, With Yap are, from left, NFA-NCR Assistant Director Basilides Taco, NFA Assistant Administrator Jessup Navarro, Bureau of Food and Drugs Deputy Director Adeliza Ramos, and MOST-USAID Resident Advisor Hector Magislang. NFA's Iron fortified rice is being sold at P21 per kilogram in premium grade variety. The program is in compliance with Republic Act. 8976 or the from fortification Program which requires mandatory fortification of staples such as rice, sugar, flour, cooking oil by November this year.



YAP SIGNS DECLARATION OF SUPPORT TO IRON-FORTIFIED RICE PROGRAM

Agriculture Secretary and former National Food Authority Administrator Arthur C. Yap signs the Declaration of Support to the iron-fortified rice program of the food agency during the faunching of the said program in Commonwealth Market in Queson City recently. The NFA's Iron-fertification program is in compliance with Republic > Act 8976 or the Iron Fortification Program which requires mandatory fortification of staples such as rice, sugar, flour, cooking oil by November this year. Yap is joined by officials of the DA, NFA and the Department of Health.

Hax your (codback: inquiror life name/city/message to Z207 (Globe) and 386 (Smart) or enail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso



FIRST BIDDER Kimto Katagir, chef of Makati Shangri-La's Inagiku, bids for Adidas Respect ME (Missy Elliot) cap.



FEATHERS and Swatch for Maryann Lumen

Going, going, sold!

T WAS so unlike the auctions that you've seen on television or in movies—you know, the kind where wealthy collectors would raise their numbered paddles and, with the least movement on their Botoxed faces, bid millions of dollars for something artsy to add to their collection.

At last Sunday's Sports Time Swatch and Adidas auction, people were so relaxed you couldn't put a price on their good mood. And what were auctioned off were not pieces of high art or heirloom jewelry but the most desirable Swatch and Adidas memorabilia this

side of cool.

A rowdy bunch of passionate bidders filled the Greenbelt 3 lobby and was egged on by the crowd attracted by the presence of models, movie and pro basketball stars and other

celebrity guests.

The four-part auction action took all of six hours. It started slowly but surely with Chinggay Andrada and Jinno Rufino as auctioneers, got energized by the trio of Anton San Diego, Jose Liana, Mai Cojuangco-Zim, sustained by the duo of Tina Revilla and again Llana, and reached climax with Bill Velasco, Paolo Bediones and Tim Yap behind the podium.

The highest bid in the first session at 155,000 points was for the Adidas men's supersuede track jacket and pants. A Swatch Rainbow watch that came with an itsy-bitsy black biking of snatched at 90,000 points.

There was no rhyme or reason in the bidding. A Swatch Square watch with charms went for 500,000 points while a Swatch Skin with real diamonds—repeat, real diamonds—got sold for only 500 more points. A red Ian Thorpe autographed swimming cap was auctioned off for 550,000 points. In blue, it was worth only 80,000 points. In short, every bid was a personal prayer and the auctioneets did their best to grant it.



GOING/ C6 TREASURE CHEST of Swatch Olympic Games Historical watches is diamond star Maricel Soriano's award du jour.



A MODERN fairy tale from Gilda Cordero Fernando



PASSPORT to glitzy living /E2



PAL's mile-high culinary makeover /G1



PLUS an eight-page beauty special



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*Free II you subscribe on or before Sept 30, 2004.



The much-awaited iPod is finally in the country!



NICOLETTE Bell is pretty in pink with an iPod mini on her waist.

Secretary and the secretary and the second

APPLE Singapore's

Patricla Siew and EY

By Beia Formoso Contributor

ECORD players. Stereos that reach the ceiling. Bulky boomboxes. The Walkman. The Discman.

Music players have evolved over the decades in size, shape and what they play-from vinyl records, eight-tracks, cassette tapes and compact discs to mp3s and other forms of digital music.

The new millennium is no exception with the invention of the ultimate music player: the Apple Pod.

When Apple introduced the iPod to the world in 2001, it forever changed the way people listen to music. Never before had there seen a faster and easier way to always have

music with you wherever you go. And yet, in the words of Apple's CEO Steve Jobs, "the best digital music player just got

better." With the creation of the iPod mini and development of the fourth-generation iPod, Apple once again has outdone itself in hardware and software innova-

Light, small and deadly

The good news is, one doesn't have to buy an iPod on the Internet or through a relative who's going aboard, because the newest :Pods are now available in the Philippines.

The .Pod muni is the world's smallest portable music player at 100 g and 3.6 inches high, 2 inches wide and less than half an inch thick. It holds up to 1,000 CD-quality songs in its 4GB storage, and plays for eight hours

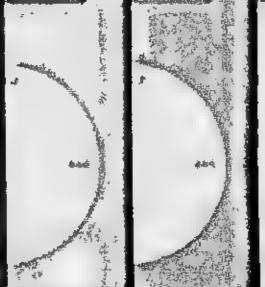
straight.

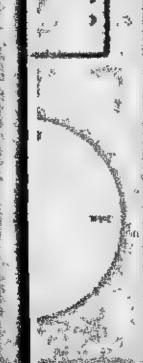
It's so light and small you'd forget it was there if it weren't for the casing. The cutest model by far, the iPod mini comes in five delicious shiny colors: pink, blue, green, silver and gold, in anodized aluminum that protects it from stains and scratches while in your pocket or purse.

You'll definitely want to show this baby off, and what better way to do that than by attaching it to your clothes with the belt clip (included in the package) or sticking it on your arm (with the durable neoprene armband, sold

separately) while jogging?
But the iPod mini isn't all about looks. It is the first of the iPod models to feature the Apple Click Wheel. Using only one hand, you can now scroll with the touch-sensitive Click Wheel, press the symbol buttons, and quickly navigate your entire music library without ever lifting your thumb.







LIKE candy! The iPod muni has five delicious colors to choose from.

The best features of the former (Pods have been retained in this one, such as Apple's patent pending Auto-Sync technology that automatically downloads an entire digital music library onto iPod and keeps it up-todate whenever it is plugged into a Mac or Windows computer using FireWire or USB 2.0 cable, Transfer time is unbelievably quick at two songs per second.

And not only does it serve as a mass storage device for other files and documents. You can also store a copy of your contacts, calendar, and to-do lists. It also includes games like Solitaire, Brick, Parachure and Music Quiz,

which you can play while listening to music. If you're one of those who claim they would never be able to fill up 20GB (5,000 songs), much less 40GB (10,000 songs) with their song preferences, the iPOD mini is the player for you. Selling price is at P15,740 and comes with earbud headphones, an Apple iPod mini power adaptor, a FireWire cable, a USB 2.0 cable and a CD-ROM with iTunes program.

Fourth-generation gizmo

Hardcore music lovers, however, should skip the cute colors for the fourth-generation

It offers numerous enhancements, the most obvious of which is size. It's slightly smaller and lighter than the older models. Battery life has improved from 10-12 hours, and can be fast-charged up to 80-percent capability in only one hour through the accompanying

FireWire while connected to your computer. This one too has lost the four buttons under the screen and adopted the Click Wheel feature. And since people love listening to music on Shuffle, the option Shuffle Songs is now included in the Main Menu.

DYAN Castillejo and iPod's Jun Villanueva

It just takes a click on the wheel for it to automatically select songs at random. Users can now also save multiple on-the-go playlists, handy for finding the right set of songs for the right moment.

What hasn't changed is its massive storage size, with 20GB able to hold 5,000 songs and 40GB 10,000 songs, his trusty features are also intact, such as Auto-Sync, customizable menu, portable hard drive, Text Notes for reminders, contacts, calendar and games. All these, and the clean, crisp white cover that Apple is known for.

How much does this god of music players cost? The 20GB model costs P18,780 while is the No. 1 digital music player in the world.

the 40GB model sells for P25,610, and comes with earbud headphones, AC adaptor, FireWire cable, USB 2.0 cable.

Cool accessories

As always, a cool gadget has equally cool accessories—in this case, sold separately black carrying case, dock, in-ear headphones, earbud headphones and remote, stereo connection kit like FM transmitters and cassette adapters, and the Apple Airport Express.

When you want to listen out loud to music that's in your iPod out or need to update it instantly wherever you are, the Airport Express is the feature to help you. It turns your flunes into AirTunes, playing your music wirelessly on your home stereo or powered speakers, anywhere in the house.

It also serves as a wireless Internet connection for your computer, letting you share a single broadband Internet connection by serving as a wireless bridge to extend the range of your primary base station (where your modem is) Secure and safe, the Airport Express fits in the palm of your hand so you can create an instant wireless network on the

The possibilines are endless. In fact, the iPod wasn't just made for music. There is a special feature that allows you to adjust speed while listening to Audio Books. Don't have time to sit quietly and read a good book? Listen to Dan Brown's "The Da Vinci Code" or J.R.R. Tolkien's "The Hobbit" while commuting or waiting for chent meetings by purchasing and downloading them from the Internet or uploading them from a CD.

There is no doubt that iPod has changed the way people listen to music. No wonder it



Power drink is on the Net

OVOZONE. Ovaltine Power's official web site, is now online to reach out to computer savvy kids. The web site will allow children to know more about their favorite choco health drink.

They can learn more about Activ8 Power and its benefits, see

the new Ovaltine Power television Commercial, find out the latest on their favorite drink and play interactive games, among

For instance, they will learn that New Ovalune Power has been improved with Activ8 Power + Zinc, a breakthrough combination of mind enhancers and body

Visit www.oyaltine.com.ph.

End of season

holding its End of Season Glorietta 4, Greenbelt 3, Alasale until Sept. 11. D.s- bang Town Center, SM Megacounts are offered on se- mall, Power Plant Mall, lected ladieswear, toiletries and Plaza, Starmills Pampanga, lingerie.

Marks and Spencer is to-Robinson's Galleria

MARKS and Spencer is cated at Shangri-La Plaza, menswear, Robinson's Place, Harrison Ayala Center Cebu and



DON Alvaro de Salas (center) with Michel and Amparito Lhuillier



PAQUI Aboitiz, Carmen Tornos de Salas, Josephine Aboitiz Booth and Quina Melendez



CASINO Español de Cebu president Bobby Aboltiz and Marian Aboltiz

Spain's 'amigos' in Cebu celebrate

ON Alvaro de Salas, charge d'affaires of the Spanish embassy in Manila, and his wife, Doña Carmen Tornos de Salas, were guests of honor during the recent formal launch of Amigos de España en Cebu, Filipinas, The event was part of the traditional observance of July as Spanish Month in the Casino Español de Cabu.

CEBU

Jaime Picornell

The ceremony was held in the temporary clubhouse of Casino Español at the Garcia-Escaño mansion on Ranudo Street, just a few steps away from the construction site of the new Casino Español building. The grandiose structure was also visited by Don Alvaro and Doña Carmen. The impressive entrance hall is remanuscent of a Renais-

sance palace patio.

During the launch, Casmo Español president
Roberto Aboitiz welcomed Don Alvaro and
Doña Carmen. The organization's first president, Amparito Llamas Lhuillier, explained
the rationale for Amigos de España.

Commendation-

Don Alvaro commended both speakers for , their desire to promote the Spanish language and culture.

Aside from Casino president Bobby Aboitiz, also present were vice president Cheling Sala, house chair Bunny Pages, architect Tessie Javier, who is in the building committee, consultants Robert Lilja (for management) and Gema Lulsa Pido (for food)

The amigos present included Michel Lhuillier, escorting Amparito; the Casino Español's first lady, Marian Aboitiz, the organization's secretary, Myra Gonzalez; treasurer Julina Muertegui; Paqui Aboitiz; Quina Melendez; Vivina Yrastorza; Gabriel Palmer; Josephine Booth, and the three ladies who conduct the Spanish language classes—Cecilia Rodriguez, Ma. Pilar Escaño and her daughter, Choco Laplana

Among them was my father, Don Santiago Picornell, who often enlivens occasions like this with memories of his youth. He is 92 now, but he clearly remembers when, at the age of 8, his father brought him to the founding meeting of Casino Español de Cebu on Jan. 1, 1920.

Need to know

It seems we have readers in distant shores. They say they read this column on the Internet or in their subscriptions. Reacting to the May 2 column, which first reported on the formation of Amigos de España en Cebu, they expressed a wish to know more about it.

As it is newly organized and still trying to attain the goal of 100 founding members, the organization's activities are limited to monthly luncheon meetings, which can be very lively. Everyone strives to speak in Spanish. When in doubt, Julina M. has a dictionary they can consult. However, Paqui A. and Quina M. are quite quick with an answer, or a correction. It makes for a very hilarious time.

It may seem like a club of ladies who hunch but actually, the first to sign up were men—Felicio Zuluaga, his brother Rodrigo Zuluaga, and Jose B. Sala whose wife, Susan M. Sala, is the Amigos' vice president.

Other Amigos are Chinggay Utzurrum, PRO; Ana Ma. Escaño, Annie Aboitiz, Annabelle Lu Ym, Teresing Mendezona, Anna Marie Dizon, Tina Ebrada, Margot Larrañaga, Lisa Paradies, Jon Aboitiz, Carmen Campbell, Ernesto Aboitiz and Jose Mari Miranda.

Other members are Angelita Lhuillier, Oche Golez from Cagayan de Oro, Cristina Moraza, Vilma Ouano, Julie Gandionco, Fe Sala Villarica, Alberto de Rotacche, Lourdes Narcise and Teresita Moraza Mendezona.

The next meeting of Amigos will be on Sept. 15 at Sol y Luna, the authentic Spanish restaurant at the Ayala Entertainment Center. It will be hosted by Amparito who, at this moment, is visiting daughter Monique in Beverly Hills, Canfornia.

The agenda will include forthcoming events such as the Fiesta in October at the City Sports Club, and the concert of Pilita Corrales on Nov. 27 at the new Casino Espanol. Pilita's show is a fund-raiser for the St. Joseph Foundation, which has a project teaching housewives live/shood slolls like crocheting. The products made by the beneficiaries are displayed and sold at the home of Lulu Aboltiz.

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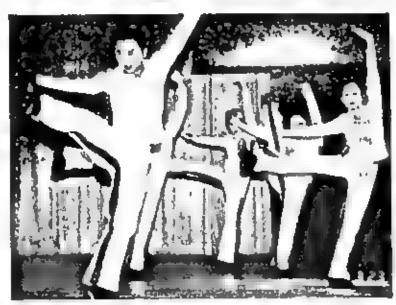




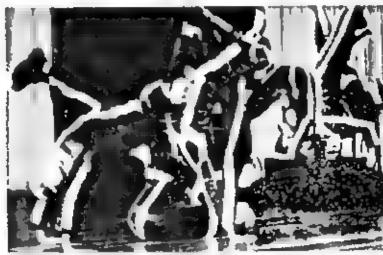
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BEE FLYERS FOR DETAILS.



UNIVERSITY of the Philippines' Dense



MIRIAM College's Company of One



COLLEGE of St. Benilde's Silent Step

Night of youthful moves

T the Maximum Groovity Dance Event held recently at the Henry Lee Irwin Theater of Ateneo de Manila University, 15 college dance groups, clad in their best costumes and with their passions running high, showed an amazing dance repertoire, from classical ballet to jazz and hip-hop.

The Assumption College's Danzmoves performed a tap dance version of popular songs by Michael Jackson, Madonna and Britney Spears.

The Company of the Ateneo Dancers looked classy and angelic in their all-white ensemble as they solemnly danced to Alanis Monssette's "Forgiven."

The Coilege of St. Benilde's Silent Steps grooved to the beat of the Black-Eyed Peas' "Where is the Love."

The board of judges led by Douglas Nierras, one of the top choreographers in the country and the artistic director of Powerdance, named the top three dance groups.

The University of the Philippines' Dansa, who showed their perfect form in their "Kill Bill" number went home with the third prize

Bill" number, went home with the third prize.

The Miriam College Company of One did a cheer-dance-like number and got the second prize.

But the night belonged to the UP Filipunana, whose exceptionally soulful rendition of Co.dplay's "Clocks" left the audience stunned. It won the grand prize.

The event was organized by Megastar Events and sponsored by Nescafé Ice. Part of the proceeds was donated to the Philippine Federation of the Deaf and the South East Asian Institute of the Deaf.

Celebration with a bang!

IT'S a jazzy month at Shangri-La Plaza this September On Sept. 10, Douglas Nierras' Powerdance will showcase a jazz dance concert billed "Power Jazz," 6 p.m. at the mall's Grand Atrium, 2/L.

Premier jazz band Skarleit will perform chart-busting hits at 4 p.m. on Sept. 18. On Sept. 24, Shangri-La Plaza plays host to the album launching of Ayen Munji.

Streetscape, the mall's outdoor dining and night entertainment center, features teen pop and R&B sensation Mikaela Hahn with Great Divide on Sept. 10, Time & A Half on Sept. 11, Sign of Times on Sept. 17, Entwine on Sept. 18, New Level on Sept. 24 and Millenmum on Sept. 25

Meanwhile, the Gundam Model Kit Caravan Tour visits The Shang on Sept 19, while the Duncan Yoyo Grand Exhibition, a top-drawer act among young peopie, holds fort on Sept. 26.

Shangn-La Plaza's abiding support for the arts is headlined by the upcoming 2004 Maningning Miciat Art Competition, a painting contest open to young artists aged 28 and below.

Submission of entries will be on Sept. 14 and 15. The entries will be exhibited at the 4/L of the Shang from Sept. 17 to 29, while the awarding ceremonies will be held on Sept. 29.

The mall's Kids Zone on Level 4 also brims with activities this month, starting with the Children's Fashion Sale and Kids Promo from Sept. 24 until Oct. 3. A Children's Fashion Show will be held on Sept. 25, while various kiddle activities such as a makeover for little girls, henna tatrooing for little boys, face painting, bailoon rwisting and storyteiling sessions will be held on Sept. 25 and 26.





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■ The improper preparation of milk supplements may be dangerous to your child's health.

Per E.O. # 51 CA No. 054-2004, 9/2/2004

Cs

Coffee crackerjack

By Rowena C. Burget

IDA Dagami is as serious about relationship marketing as she is about a good cup of coffee.

For her, "Our business is customer experience. Our industry is coffee" is more than just a company motto. This coffee ambassador of Starbucks firmly believes that those two things have helped the company succeed.

Vital is the tenet that drinking coffee at Starbucks should be a distinct and pleasurable experience. "We know our customers, understand what they value, and know how to enhance what they value," says Degam.

Premium coffee became a passion and a profession for Dagams when she joined Starbucks at Alabang Town Center in 2001. It was on that job that she became schooled in brewing techniques and equipment, bean selection, blending and rousting.

Those lessons are paying off in a big way now for this 23-year-old, thanks to the coffee bar boom.

Envoy's tasks

The country's first coffee ambassador, Degami bested 12 coffee masters or baristas of different Starbucks outlets in the Philippines in the first-ever Ambassador's Cup. Held every two years, the competition will have its second incarnation on Nov. 9.

Dagami's prizes included a free trip to Seattle (where the Starbucks head office is located), travel allowance and gift certificates from Rustan's.

And how does one become a barista? Only regular employees can apply for the position of coffee explorer. One has to take a special exam where you should acIda Dagami is
Starbucks' coffee
ambassador.
What job could
be more swell?

quire a grade of 95 percent in order to become a coffee master in the store lev-

To be a coffee master in the district level, a requirement in joining the Ambassador's Gup, you have to present any coffee concocion through dancing, singing or acting. The district manager then chooses the top two winners in their area who will vie for the Ambassador's Cup.

As coffee ambassador, Dagami conducts coffee seminars at Starbucks outlets and other companies and schools, and researches and writes for the monthly newsletter "Coffee Scoop," which is distributed in store outlets.

The seminars, dubbed "From Bean Cup to Coffee," presents information on Starbucks, the history and growing of coffee, the three main coffee-growing regions, coffee processing, roasting, categories, stamp, fundamentals, taste and description, differences of arabica and robusts and pairing coffee with food.

Passion for work

"Being an ambassador has helped boost my self-confidence. I used to be shy. But now, even my manager has noticed a great improvement," Dagami says.

Three months after winning the contest, Dagami was promoted to shift supervisor. Eight months later, she was designated assistant store manager. She's also with the learning and development team, which is in charge of training "partners" of different stores nationwide.

People say passion is contagious, and I believe it. If your teammates see it in you, they will also be inspired to give their best in their work," says Dagami, who used to work as food server in a fastfood chain.

A Hotel and Restaurant Management graduate of the Dominican College in Laguna, Dagami says her role as coffee ambassador has given her the chance to enhance her relationships with co-workers and customers.

"The most memorable experience was when we conducted the first seminar in a mail. There was this young girl who approached me, kissed me on the cheek and thanked me. She was a regular customer of Starbucks and was excited to attend and learn about coffee," she recalls.

She knows coffee talk indeed, and at Starbucks, she's providing a growing number of customers with exactly what they want.

For free coffee seminars, call 8962755 or fax 8952747. You can also get forms from any Starbucks store.

E-mail the author at rhurgos@inquireccom.ah



IDA Degeni with Howard Schultz, chief global strategist of Starbucks Coffee

best in the world, os emerged victorious Champion Milk Supplement for bables starting 6 months.

Excellent service is in the details

BANQUET servicing is an art that depends on the timely execution of hundreds of details.

This penchant for details, among other factors, has made Oakwood Premier Ayala. Center a favored meeting venue for corporates—from multinationals just starting up operations in the country to many of the Philippines' top 100 companies.

Members of the Australian New Zealand Chamber of Commerce (ANZCham), for instance, have been among the most loyal patrons of Oakwood's function rooms. They set up the headquarters of the ANZCham in one of the serviced offices at the luxury property in 1998 and have stayed since then because of Oakwood's convenient accation and its business-friendly layout.

The function rooms on the seventh floor are set apart from the lobby, which as one floor below on the sixth. Both are one elevator ride away from the basement parking lot, ensuring minimal interphase between hotel residents and their visitors and those heading for corporate meetings.

Aside from offering privacy and a subdued ambience, Oakwood is known for its good food and fine service

Fevorites at seminars and meetings are the US beef tenderloin with crushed pepper and the fillet of salmon tenyals. When the executives decide to pual out the stops, French chef Jerome Cartailler whips up dishes such as lamb tenderioin gratinated with goat cheese, grilled jumbo prawns, "Beurre blanc" or pan-fried duck liver with mangoes, and a wicked apple pie made from scratch and topped with Häagen-Dazz ice cream

The staff have also been trained in the art of anticipation. Many of them keep a set of extension cords and adapters handy to connect to computers and projectors. A number have even seamed to troubleshoot LCD multi-media projectors, the bane of many corporate presenters.

it pays to be systematic, according to Oakwood banquet manager Macky Justiaquio. With a system in place, he can lay out a poolside cocktail for 250 people or a sit-down wedding banquet for 150 with a team of only 15 servers in less than 60

With the right kind of planning, he says,



THE FUNCTION rooms of the Oakwood Frumier Ayala Center have become a favorite of corporate executives.

Sunday LIFESTYLE







AUCTIONEERS ALL: (extreme left) Broadway actor Jose Llana, Segue designer Mai Cojuangco-Ziti and Tatler editor Anton San Diego; TV hosts Tina Revilla-Valencia (left center) and Chinggay



WORKING the crowd are TV hosts Bill Velasco and Paolo Bediones and Super creative director and 2bU! partymeister Tim Yap, shown in inset trying hard to be taller than the giant JVC flat TV set that flashes info on every lot up for bidding. SALUTE to the Salud women, Kazue, Gina and Chit, feisty bidders all.



MALE bidders folded

fabulously trim Zsa

Zsa Padilla voiced

whenever the

out her bid

Going, going, sold!

From page CI

Things started heating up as soon as the the shoes and the watch from rival bidders, she more popular items were put up for bidding. Quietly slipped out of the auction arena. Bids grew at increments of 10,000 points, drawing surprise reactions even from the auc- to Pepper Techankee. The avid soccer fan also

Swatch Olympic Historical Games Collection, a beautiful keepsake set of nine watches. She had worked hard at collecting money cards during the 90-day promo period by making purchases at Gift Gate, Segue and Swatch stores because, she said, she wanted this set sooo bad-

Every P500 worth of purchase had entitled a buyer to a card worth 1000 points. The smarter buyers did their Christmas shopping early to acquire more money cards and came in groups so they could pool their points for more successful bids.

Fun frenzy

Divine diva Zsa Zsa Padilla only came for two things-the Swatch Oracolo and the Adidas David Becknam Predator Pulse Shoes. "I want ed a piece of Beckham," she quipped with a twinkle in her eye. As soon as she had wrestled

The other pair of Beckham's footwear went fought to the end for the Swatch Swagman The auction reached fever pitch when actress black and white double warch set and two of Maricel Sonano bid one million points for the the prized soccer ball lots-the Telstar Durlast and the Tricolore Ball, both matchballs from the FIFA World Cup 1974 and

1998, respectively. IBC big boss Francis Lumen, on the other band, got something for wife Mary Ann-the Swarch Plume de Fete. Architect Ed Calma looked specially thrilled by the Swatch Run. Time around his neck, and the Mexico 1968 leather bag that his eight-year-old daughter Daniela wanted.

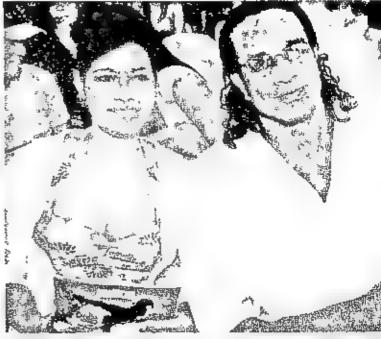
It was a frenzied atmosphere as paddles went up in the air, challenging the auctioneers to be alert and keep up. "Come on, let this be the bid to break the million mark," said Llana who not only did a good job as rabble-rouser but also en-

retrained the guests at half-time with a song. As the auction was coming to a close, and the last lot was being called for bids, Anton San Diego had his money cards all counted and ready to bid for the much-awaited Swatch Bunnysutra. But he was no match to Swatch big man Asi Taulava who was determined to win the Bunnysutra for lumself. Asi set the record for the biggest bid for the day at 1,300,000 points, having charmed almost everyone around him to donate their remaining money cards to hun, including chef Jessie Sincroco who came too late to bid for the Borgy Manotoc autographed shirt and watch.

In the end, the Sports Time event taught a lot of auction first timers how to enjoy the tension of friendly compension and to appreciate the value of pooling resources together. People went home with their most cherished Swatch or Adidas memorabiha, and Sports Time came



ROSE Liberageo goes for chic with the Swatch Veruschka



SWATCH big man Asi Taulava does not have to talk and text to place the highest bid for a Swatch Bunnysutra as Anna May cheers him on-





ACTIONS OF THE SECURITY WAS Pepper Techanice



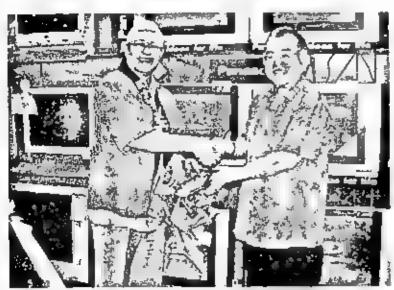
PR pro Susan Joven (above) flashes a victor's smile with her Swatch Olympic Centennial Games set; (right) father and son Craig and Harrison Remes hold on to their Adidas Finale ball



A-TEAM Mr. and Mrs. Bill Velasco with Adidas marketing's Angge Suiza and Keren Pascual



-CUTTING with PPH president Rodolfo Perez and Peter Henri Ng of Anson at Anson Emponum in Passy Road



RIBBON-CUTTING with PPH president Rodolfo Perez and Abenson's Wilson Lim at Abenson Shangri-La Edsa Plaza branch

PPH director K. Uehigashi, B. Sarangaya, H. Umeda, M. Tenmatay, PPH president Rodolio Perez, Mepco president S. Fukami, K. Nimura, Mr. Inukai, T. Fejli and S. Saito at the commemoration of the first delivery of Panasonic F) Series Flat TV

New range of flat TVs launched

THE FIRST batch of the Panawas "sent off" during ceremonies held recently at the Total (tau) Series logo. Distribution Center (TDC) grounds of Mepco in Taytay, Rizal.

Mepco and PPH officials graced the occasion. They included K. Uchigashi, B. Sarangaya, H. Umeda, M. Tenmatay, Rodolfo Perez, S. Fukami, K. Nimura, Mr. Inukas, T. Fujji and \$. \$aito.

The event featured the blesssonic Flat TV FJ T (tau) Series ing of the first shipment and the cutting of a cake with the FJ T

> Afterward, Mepco and PPH officials held a series of ribboncutting ceremonies in various Panasonic dealers—Abenson Inc. in Shangri-La Plaza, Western Marketing and SM Appliance in SM Megamall, Anson Emporium on Pasay Road and Automatic Center in Giorietta.

The Panasonic Flat TV FJ T

HATTER STATES

PANASONIC van on the way to its first delivery of F] series

HALO-HALOT BACK TO BACK ENTERTAINMENT FINDS.

PRIDAY

3:00 PH

Barbie's Cradio

and

Jimmy Bondot

THURSDAY

6:30 PM

Fireworks Display

SATURDAY

4:30FH

Regine Velesque:

and

Akafellas

SUNDAY

B:OOPM

Piolo Pascual

Jay-R

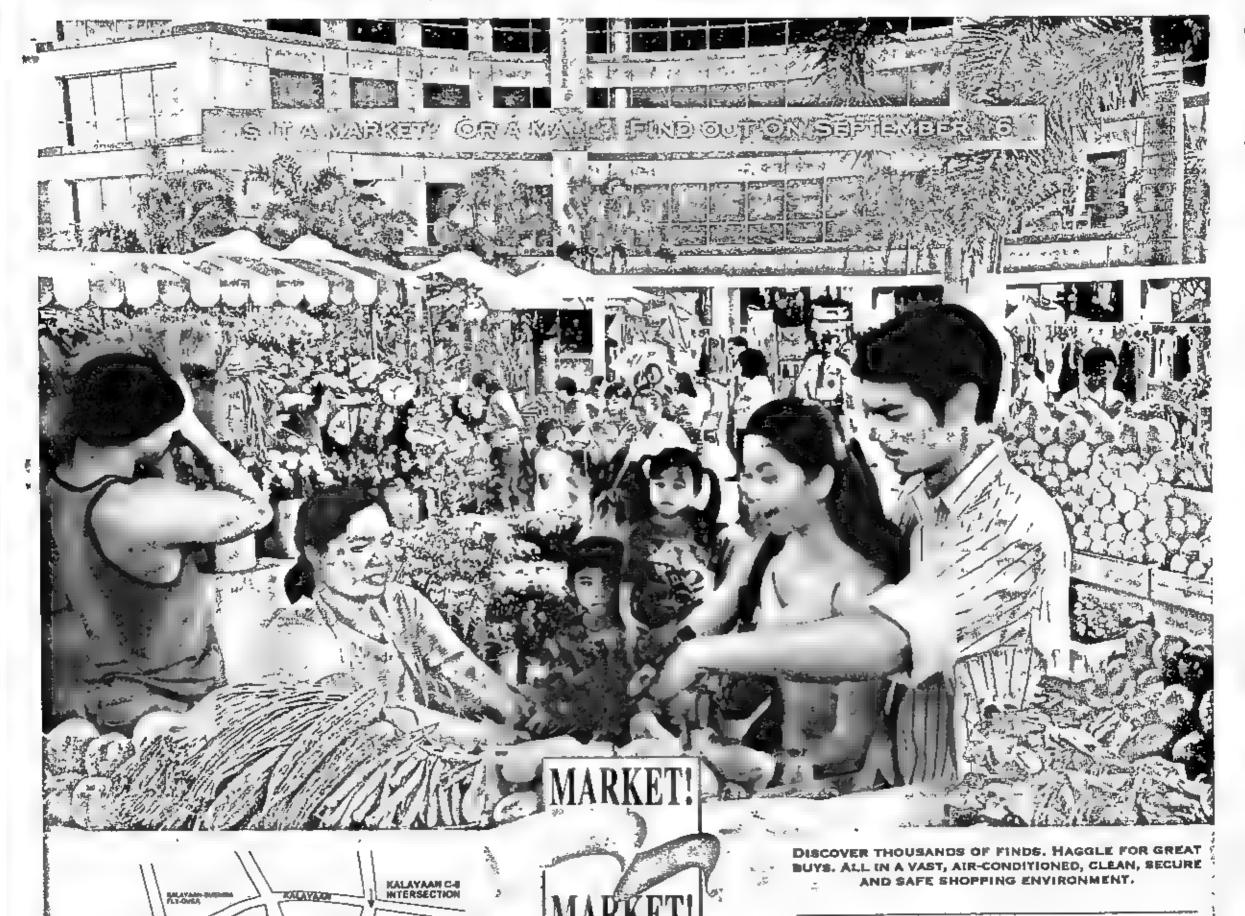
(tau) Series is the company's latest top-of-the-line range of flat television sets. It has Multi-Television Sound that can get stereo signals from both broadcast and audio-video source, and a fiveband equalizer that allows a choice from three preset sound

settings (Music/News/Cinema). The Virtual Hyper Bass (VHB) Circuit provides rich, deep bass sounds by using the advance Psychoacoustic Bass Boost technology. Component video (DVD)

input terminals allow direct input of signals from discs in their original format.

The Panasonic Flat FJ T (tau) Series' silver frame has a slimmer side profile than previous models. The dark screen bezel helps deepen the images to make black blacker, and white whiter.

The new Panasonic FJ T (tau) Series is now available at selected authorized Panasonic dealers in Metro Manila.



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FREE @ Plain 600



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FREE @ Plan 600



NOKIA 2100 FREE @ Plan 600

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Motorola C200	FREE	PI 900
Nokta 3315 **********************************	FREE	_ P2,500]
Motorola C375 (MMS)	FREE	P3,400
Nokla 1 (00"	FREE	P3,500 3
Motorola C350i	FREE	P3,600
Alcatel OT 332	FREE	F4.000
Noka 2300	FREE	P4,600
Nokla 2100	FREE %	FP4,900
Siemens C62(MMS)	P5,100 I	P5.400
Nolda 3100 (MMS) - Record	P6,500 2	P6,800 ,
Nokia 3200 (HMS with bulk-th current)	P8,400	P8,700

SMART KID CONSUMABLE PLANS

A Maria Contraction	September 4	Albert week
Consumable Plan Value	P300	P600
Free Year Allocation	75	50
SMART to SMART (per minute)	P6.50	P6.50
SMART to gon-SMART** (per minute)	P7.30	P7 50
Local Tent in excess of the	P;.00	P1:00



The Celfone for Kids FREE Phones must be enrolled under an Auto-Debit Agreement (ADA). In the absence of a credit card, subscriber must pay P1.400 plus the one (1) month advanced MSF to avail of the FREE Phone.

For SMART Kid simpack, one (1) month advanced Monthly Service Fee (MSF) is required. Pre-termination charges applies for phonekits and simpacks when contract is discontinued.

All phones under Plan 300 are available under 12-month contract period except for Motorpia C200 (under 18-month contract period), and Motorpia C275 (under 24-month contract period). Phones under Plan 600 not included under the FREE Phones promo are available under 12-month contract period.

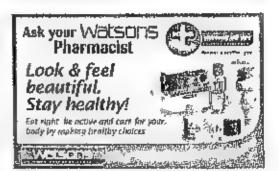
Applicable only to SMART calling other networks' landline, NIDO. Rates are inclusive of VAT and Foreign Currency Adjustment (FCA). Consumable amount covers voice calls (local, NIDO), upon (local and international unit), and VAS. Free text allocation applies to local text messages (SMART to SMART and SMART to other local networks).

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The king of paradise: A fairytale for repressed adults

By Gilda Cordero Fernando

■HE ISLAND kingdom of Papanu was comprised of four provinces and a fertile valley. The region to the north, Puripuri, who sang nothing but praises to the king, grew betelnuts. The province of Mambu, to the south, made wooden drums of all sizes. The craft of Bilom, to the west, was string bags for carrying melons and babies. To the east was a fertile valley, as perfectly round as a green bowl, which produced all the food for Papanu. These were: sweet potatoes, rice, coconuts, sugarcane, squashes, mangoes, papayas, star apples and especially coffee. The coffee of Vigo, as the valley was called, was famous throughout the Pacific. All the neighboring islands would rather drink it and sell their own.

For a time, the four provinces had small wars

with one another until the reign of the present king. As the first Christian king of Papanu he was able to keep the peace, with only a little grumbling from Mambu, the home of the drain makers whose inhabitants were not only sorcerers but reformed cannibals. There were only two hundred of them, the rest having been eaten.

The keynore of the king's reign was self-sacrifice. To this end he are his cakes without sugar and his potatoes stone-cold, His shoes were made out of the roughest pineapple skins and his cape was sack cloth and ashes. He wore a magnificent crown of 4-inch nails. The king lived atop an extinct volcano in a beautiful castle constructed out of millions and billions of thoms. But the beautiful turrets had been sawn off (the king felt they were too lavish) and the romantic drawbridge converted into kitchen tables.

To the letter

The king was respected by all his subjects—well, almost all—who obeyed him to the letter for fear of burning in eternal fire. For example: everyone in the kingdom was lean and trim. The poor worked hard all day, and the rich exercised all day, for to have an ounce of fat was against the law. There was a very low crime rate in Papanu because anyone arrested was turned over to the high priest, who could go on the pulpit and give a sermon all day. The high priest was such a

bonng sermonizer that the latteners could feel their ears literally falling off from boredom.

Most of the guilty pleaded a sentence of hard labor instead (anyway the inhabitants were so fit there was no such thing as hard labor). But it would not do—the sentence was still to be tied to a stool and listen to the high priest whose record sermon was 68 days. And he was only the high priest! There was still a higher priest and a highest priest who could go on and on and on. At the end of one of the highest priest's sermons the janitor had to sweep one dozen ears that had detached from buredom and littered the floor.

At dawn, in the coldest, foggiest days of January, the king would march to the seashore with his retinue and would together plunge into the icy sea. When it was 90 degrees in the shade in summer, however, they took communal baths in the hottest hot spring. With rough, round stones they scrubbed and scrubbed their bodses. Some of the bathers were permanently lobster-red or

THE KING/ DZ



ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Let your Cellphone Show Some



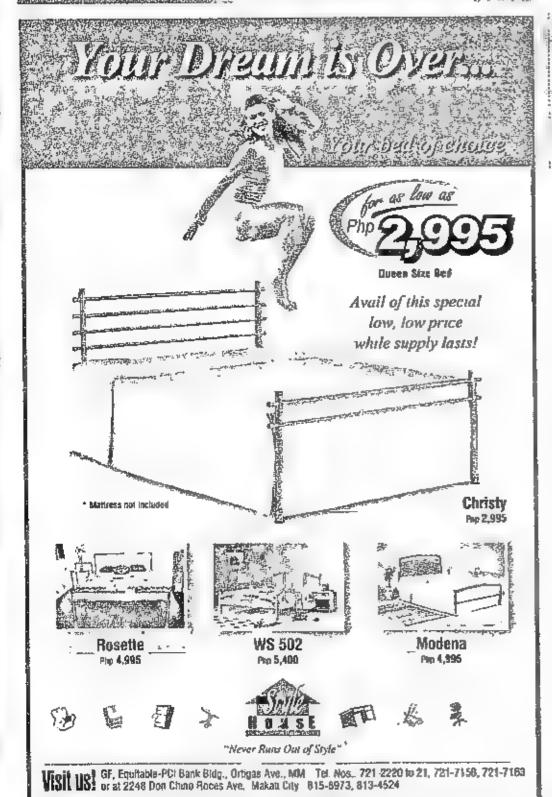
Take a techie trip

Techie Steve

Hey there, tech savvy **buddies!** what-Addict Mobile has a wild new feature that'll blow you away... and it's called Addict Skinsl That's right, as all you techies know, skins are usually used in computers to change the look and color of your PC's interface. But hey, now you can do the exact same thing with your Addict Mobile phone! All you gotta do is download it straight to your Addict Mobile, SMART Gold, SMART Infinity and SMART Buddy handset. To get this exciting content, just text SKINS to 211. It's fun, it's easy and it only costs P30 per download! There are so many to choose from: 3 Musketeers, Barney, Bench, Cartoons, Elton John, FHM, General, Godskitchen, Hoobastank, Horoscope, Catwoman, After Collateral, Day Tomorrow, Garfield, Matrix, Peter Pan, Shrek, The Notebook, Van Helsing, Olympics, Pacha, PBA, Peanuts, Scenes, SMART Brands, TV Series, UAAP and more to come! So go on guys, give it a go! Add some pizazz to your Addict Mobile phone and let your friends see the passions that run deep within you. Till our next tech-capade, chill and I'll be back with more wild tech news-- only from Addict Mobile!









Look & feel beautiful.
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Compute resistances are not required to the computer of the co

The king of paradise.

already down to their second skin. The most dedicated, in fact, had portions of their skin so thin that veins could be seen with the blood running. That's how good

The king believed that, like a candle, one could burn out with hate and anger, but most mortally of all, with love. (He had seen too much love fail in his life). Indeed he had banished all those useless feelings from his heart. When he was particularly happy he made size he slept on a bed of nails that night. He fasted and whipped himself black and blue but when no halo appeared atop his head, he worried, and walked back and forth on another bed of

The king's background: his father, the former king, had been killed by his uncle, his father's oldest brother, who had fallen passionately in love with his mother, Asila. His mother, however, refused to marry the malevolent uncle. With her young son (the present king) she eloped one full moon with a half-witted cousin who eventually drove Asila mad. The uncle who ruled in his father's stead married a lewd sister-in-law who gave buth to a big hairy spicer. But matters somehow corrected themselves and when he was 21, the present king found himself the king of Papanu. The uncle drank hemlock or something like that.

"I will never look back," the king vowed. (Actually he was afraid of turning into a pillar of salt.) The new lung was fond of telling his subjects, "You are free, you can do anything you want, anything at all, except fall in love."

Visitation

Four times a year the king made a visitation to the four regions of Papanu. From his castle of thoms on the top of the volcano (with the sawn-off turrets and drawbridge made into kitchen tables), the long and his entourage mok the journey on foot. Since they had been fasting for 40 days some of the subjects collapsed and were eaten by wild beasts (but of course the king was unaware of this because he swore never to look back). They had no trouble at all passing through Pumpuri, the red-lipped betelput province, and none in Bilom, the string bag making region who were too crosseyed from their work to think.

The king grew aware that they were nearing Vigo, being already in the adjoining region of Mambu, the drum makers. The king was amazed at how ramshackle Mambu looked, its roofs patched with old pockets and dried chicken bones. The province of the former sorcerers had secretly lived on the export of rare plumage from their exotic birds. But now there were no more feathers. The exotic birds perched on the trees completely naked, not a feather onl The chief of Mambu was roasting a field rat when the lung passed by. The chief scurried on fours and kissed the dry toasted ground the king had trud upon. But the king just walked on with a bitter smile.

His Majesty fancied himself an extremely good king but somehow the valley of Vigo (lately ruled by a woman) made him feel uneasy. Vigo was just too hish, too fertile. There were too many butterflies and busy bees and too much pollen. Even the bats excreted too much guano. On his first visit there the king squirmed to see how shamelessly the cows loved the bull. The clams lay on their backs in the warm sand and muttiplied. The papayas turned their backs to the sun and ripened, but there was much too much to harvest so they dried up and the seeds fell off, creating thousands of other little papayas.

Every evening the magical whirlwind of Vigo swept failen fruits and leaves and flowers (and an occasional dead parrot or bat) into a ball and deposited it into the deepest, unin) abuted part of the valley. The mans round them all, making the valley's

soil the richest in the Pacific.

It was rumored that its chief, Leli by name, was closely related to the goddess of fertility and the cause of it all. On full moons, it was said, she led the natives in a serenade to the plants. Their bamboo flutes played the music the flowers and the fruits loved and so they grew as large as plates and tea kerdes. In May, during the coffee season, there was fire and dancing in the plantations to the beat of hand drums. As a result the coffee beans grew so fat and rich and tasty that only one bean was required to brew a cup.

And so sales declined. The economy fell. The inhabitants needed only 31 beans permonth of breakfasts. (There were no coffee houses yet). Sacks of coffee delivered to the neighboring islands were sent back. The

sacks sat on top of one another and rotted on the barges. What a problem!

As they drew closer the king observed what a muchness of muchness the valley was! He saw a man cutting the grass on one side of his garden and on the other side it was already growing. It was the same with the men's beards. At his approach peas popped out of their pods in sheer joy. The geese and the turkeys lay their necks on the ground offering to be the roast for the royal hanch. Even the flowers put their faces on the paths hoping to be car for decoration. The king was determined to stop such ex-

Young and lovely

Carrying an anahaw leaf umbrella, under a fruit-laden arch that marked the village entrance, stood Leli, the chief of Vigo, waiting to welcome the long. She was young and lovely (or maybe old and eternal). His Majesty could see flashes of her thighs and breast through the soft reed gown she was wearing and quickly put on his black sunglasses. With his crown of 4inch nails he looked real cool.

Before he could say a word, Chief Leli took him under the shade of her umbrella and plopped a plump, juicy lychee into his mouth. It was so delicious the king wondered how he could atone for st.

But business first. The king sat in the village council hall and listened to the dismaying reports on Vigo's overproduction of coffee that was ruining the economy.

At the end of it, he said, "I decree that the coffee beans of Vigo not grow bigger than normal, bird songs not go above a certain note and the polien not travel. Vigo has to learn discipline."

Chief Leli's face fell. "How can I do that, Your Highness?" she asked.

"A good ruler must be able to control everything," said the king. Your Majesty, I need help. What

do you think makes everything grow so fast here in Vigo?" Leii

"Maybe you pamper the plants too much. Maybe you love everything too wildly—it encourages erer-reproduction. We could become a truly poor kingdom amid so much plenty. And you will be responsible for such a disaster. But first, what can you suggest we do with the coffee rotting on the barges?"

Left stopped to think, "Well," she dimpled, "we could throw them overboard. The fish would have a fill of our great coffee, they will be drunk with joy and somersault for weeks on end and, and-"

"Lay more eggs!" The king's eyebrows knitted so tightly that he couldn't unknot them. "And what do you propose we do with the little baby fishes that will result from this-this Boston Tea Party?" asked the king sarcastically.

"We can send the fishes to countries that need them. The retired sorterers can help by directing them how to swim to Bangladesh, Biafra and Smokey Moun-CHUE."

to go on foot.

It was indeed a nasty traffic jam. The

carriages and oxcurts were at a standstill

all the way to Mambu and Bilom. Some

were detouring as far as Puripuri. So tight

was it that a number of carts had to hurl

themselves down the precipice in order to

milling at the entrance of Vigo. The

source of trouble: a monster yam, as huge

as a mountain boulder, was blocking the

road, People could not decide whether to

send the root crop to "Believe it or Not by

His Majesty saw Chief Leli waiting wor-

riedly by the roadside, looking like a lily

dropped from the sky. The king noted at

once that her eyes were filled with longing

as were his own, and that her arms ached to

hold him, as did his own. He realized im-

mediately the reason for the problem. Chief

Leli was in love! And the more in love she

and lunged at the leng's neck with the tusk

of a boar, Luckily the police of Vigo were

quick enough to prevent the assassmation

and were soon pinning the wriggling culprit

to the ground. It was the minmaker, "Oh

no!" Chief Leli exclaimed. The rainmaker

was a most mild-mannered man from

The king couldn't imagine why anyone

would want to bill such a self-sperificing

king like him. He was so rattled that he had

to hold on to Chief Leli for support. "We

tried, oh, we really tried!" said Leli sadly,

tears streaming down her cheeks as the

rainmaker was tied up from head to toe and

dragged to the town house for interroga-

whom one never expected such rage.

Just then, a man broke out of the crowd.

was the more fertile the land became.

Hundreds of curious people were

make the king's passage possible

Rupley" or to eat it.

"All for free?" "How else?"

"It could be a loan. A 20-year loan, with

Chief Lefi was used to the lung's idea of charity. "Your Majesty they will be doing us a favor. Why don't we pay them instead?"

The king could feel the beginnings of a nasty headache when the banquet was served. Girls in hula starts served a pigeon stuffed into a capon, stuffed into a roast pig. There was a chickadee stuffed into a duck, stuffed into a goat, stuffed into a roasted calf. The king praised the meal but felt sick. He raised his glass for a toast. "Joy is a senous crime that I am outlawing as an economic measure," said the king to his shocked audience, "And I want to see that in effect by my next visitation."

Chief Leli merely smiled and led the king to the visitor's chamber. "You must be very, very tired, your Highness, after walking such a long distance. You must take a rest before you go and all your men too."

Feather bed

With great alarm the king saw that the bed in the visitor's chamber was lined with feathers of peacocks and pheasants and had a mosquito net of intricate cobwebs. But he was just too tired to protest. Before he knew it his head was sinking into a soft pillow of canary feathers. Chief Leli took a silk fan, stirring the air around so that his royal Highness could sleep and singing him hillabies that he had never heard from his luckless mother. Before his stony eyelids dropped it dewned on the king that fertility

might be Vigo's form of subversion.

A few hours later the king woke up feeling that he had been given a fiery kiss in his steep. But by then Chief Leli was all protocol. "I shall try my best to do His Highness" bidding," she said, curtsying.

The king's party walked double quick back to the eastle on top of the dead volcano. His Majesty could hardly wait to shut all the essements and walk on his bed of

The weeks that followed were devoted by the king to erasing Chief Leli from his mind. But he would each himself smiling at odd moments and humming under his breath. For how could be forget her when, before departing, she had put in a box for hum to take home: the air of a silk fan, the song of a bird, the light in her eyes, a stolen. hiss and a moment of eternity. The king had himself buried up to his neck in a pit of pigslop and swore never to step into any woman's domain again.

Barely had a month passed, however, when news was brought to the castle that there was trouble in Vigo. Vehicles were detouring before they could reach the coffee village and it had been happening all day.

The king could hardly contain himself. He put his pants on backward and forgot to wear his crown of nails, in such a hurry was he to get to the root of the trouble. He ordered his vassals to clean up the royal carriage with scored windows (so he could avoid looking at nice landscapes) and prepare the horses. The entourage was only too happy they did not have

tion. The king hated crying and sighing and kissing and those things but he couldn't do anything to stop Leli's tears.

Everyone followed everyone to the town half. The rainmaker was put on a high stool for everyone to see. The high priests pushed eagerly around him preparing kilometric sermons in their heads.

Why did you want to kill the king?" asked the Chief of Police, training a mirror that reflected the sun into the man's eyes.

Happy people

"Everyone knows why!" answered the minmaker. "I am exhausted trying to make it storm to spoil the crops. To smother the buds, I have to cover the branches of every tree with woven mats. I whistle for wind all day to shake down the flowers till my lungs collapse. But the coffee trees keep blooming and blooming and the fruit trees fruiting and fruiting and the pigs and chickens and birds and bees multiplying. Because the inhabitants are happy in spite of its being prohibited. And that stirs things up. The people of Vigo always find something to be happy about in spite of such a bad king."

The king of Papanu couldn't believe what he was hearing. He was so shocked his hair began to fall in tufts. He felt he would dissolve into a pool of Jell-O.

"Does anybody else here feel the same way?" asked the clueless Chief of Police, The inhabitants started shuffling their feet and looking up at the ceiling.

"Ho, there!" The jail warden had suddenly discovered that one of the filing cabinets in the town hall had plant tendrils crawling out of the sides of the drawers and desperately curled around the pulls. The Chief of Environment tried to slink out but was immediately collared. The drawers were pulled open

> and gasping for breath. "So that's what you were filing behind my Chief of Police at the now trussed-up Chief of Environment.

revealing many prize

plants stuffed together

T just wanted to preserve some of our rare plants," the culprit whined, What if the raunmaker succeeded in killing them all?"

The police pulled open the drawers of another suspicious filing cabiner one by one. They revealed: live rare birds with brilliant plumes lying row upon row, their beaks tied with cloth bandages that were also wrapped around their bodies. "Now what's this!" screamed the Chief of Police.

"More of the same," confessed the Environment Chief, now himself angry. "How else can one stop bards from singing and flying? I haven't even begun to chase the butterflies. Anyway I'm sick of my job. I don't care if you throw me to the high priests. It's an impossible job!"

The two culprits were ordered to stand before the king. "They are subversive and obviously guilty, Your Majesty," declared the Chief of Police. "We await your sentence."

The king looked at Chief Les to whom his arm seemed permanently glued. Slowly a smile crept to his : lips. "I am sentencing you to two months of hard labor!" proclaimed the king, to the disbelief of the townspeople and the relief of the two subversives who needed to lose a couple of pounds. "Hearing dismissed!"

"What about the yam?" reminded an old

villagec Before the king could reply, a rust of a fellow with an unmanageable shock of hair, who had never before spoken in his life, sallied forth. His daddy med to pull him back. Don't say anything incriminating," the father pleaded. "He's a genius," the father announced to the crowd, "and geniuses never rnake sense!"

The king raised his hand. "Let the boy speak."

"Your Majesty, I have known how to solve the problem of Papanu since I was 4 years old," said the boy genius. "And I was wondening when your advisers would ever get to the solution. Everyone of them seems to be just too busy flogging and whapping himself. Now, about the yarr. Please, may I ask suggestions from the people?"

You may," his Majesty said. A bent old woman raised her hand and muttered. 'Tra sick of eating yams. Whe don't we just chop it up into quarters to send

out to the hungry people of the world?"

The organization of cooks picked up the suggestion. They volunteered to transform it into yam cakes as big as Ferris wheels so they wouldn't spoil on the voyage.

"We might as well send our extra fishes, too, and pigs and cows," volunteered the Chief of Social Welfare.

"And the bull!" said a feminist

"Great for public relations," said the boy genius. "As for business, Your Highness, I propose that we set up a string of smart coffee houses that will serve 50 coffee blends and pastry and sandwiches. So that people will want coffee not just for breakfast but all day long."

"The coffee house idea will be so popular that foreign countries will want them too." said the Chief of Finance enthusiastically.

"You got it!" said the boy genus. "And we will supply everyone of them our incomparable Vigo coffee beans. At 1c a cup to sell at P100 how can they resist? "

"But won't that keep people awake all night and day?" asked a witch doctor who was an insomniac.

Then we will export our high priests," the boy genius replied. "They're better than sleeping pills."

Export quality

What the boy was really proposing was an "Export Quality" bureau which would handle all export of crops, livestock and fish stock, headed by himself, of course. (He was 15 years old.) The boy genius scribbled numbers and numbers and numbers which filled the blackboards and crawled up the four walls. At the end he computed all the income Papanu was going to make from developed countries aone.

The boy wouldn't stop until the king himself was convinced that in spite of one half of the products going to foreign aid for free they would still be making oodles and oodles of money. Why, they could become the richest economy in the world! It seemed to please the king. (What they didn't know then was that the boy gentus, back!" thundered the Jambalaya Gates by name, would become, after many generations, the great granddaddy of Bill).

Never letting go of the king's hand, Chief Leli said, "Where can you find a region so loving that the plants and animals by themselves volunteer to feed humans, I propose that we always share what they give us with others." The crowd chapped. "Let us not forget either, that it was the king who first set an example of discipline to us-although, well, it got a little detailed, he-he." The long was touched. He could hardly

hold back all the tears that he had not shed in his life, "By gad, you can govern yourselves better than I can," he cried happily. "You can be a democracy, I resign." And so the bards and the plants in the cabinets were ser free and song and bloomed in the sky. Bonfires were lighted. The people put flowers and feathers in their hair and danced in the streets until nightfall. And the stars came down to kiss the king. And the king did step down. Papanu

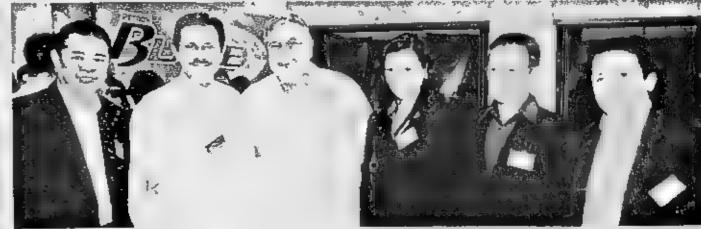
prospered under a 15-year-old prime manister who understood another kind of anthmene: that the more you give away the more you get in return. And Papanu never ran out of produce because His Retired Highness, the King, and Leli, the Once and

Future Queen, were madly and foolishly in love. Wink, wink.





FRANCIS and Mary Anne Lumen with Mon del Rosario, marketing services manager, and Charmaine Canillas, Petron advertising manager



10 Point, Petron Reet Card sales manager; Khalid D. Al-Faddagh, Petron president; Lino Lebron, Circle Transport president; Edna Marnuyac, Circle Transport marketing manager; Mon del Rosarlo, Petron marketing services manager; and Ramil Carmen, Petron cards group manager

Musical show presents innovative fuel card

PETRON Corp. recently brought together more than 800 guests, including well-known personalities and top executives of the country's leading companies, at the Le Pavillon to introduce its new product called the Petron Fleet Card.

product that allows individuals or companies to transact any time in Petron service stations nationwide without any offline worries. It processes data immediately, is tampersecure and can be customized to suit the company's specific fleet requirements such as setting limits to control gasoline expenses.

The card also has exclusive privi- tal group Da Capo greeted the del Rosario, cards group manager leges such as product rebates, roadside assistance, free items through the Loyalty Incentive Program and discounts

Petron Corp. president Khalid D. Al-Faddagh says, "The new, intelli-Fleet Card is a revolutionary gent and value-loaded Petron Fleet Card gives unparalleled convemence. Whether you gas up, purchase products or avail of services from Petron stations, PFC gives you the convenience of a credit card minus the hassles of waiting longer for approval of transactions since it is online all the time."

Soothing music from instrumen- marketing services manager Mon-

guests during cocktails, while balladeer Jed Maddela serenaded the crowd with Broadway classics. An audiovisual production followed, with Pops Fernandez taking center stage to do a mini concert.

As an added treat, event host TJ Manotoc gave away prizes such as horel accommodation at the Mandarun Oriental, Samsung D410 videophone, a trip for two to Boracay and another trip for two to Sin-

Seen at the party were Petron Fleet Card sales manager Jo Pojol,

Ramil Carmen and advertising manager Charmaine Canillas; Circle Transport president Lino Lebron and marketing manager Edna Mamuyac; CardTrend Malaysia executive KK Low; Ayala Systems president Gerry Favila; Asia Brewery Inc. COO Michael G. Tan; NBC president and CEO Francis Lumen with wife Mary Ann; Transport Services manager Susan Salazar: General Milling Corp.'s Poshan Dy and Kraft Phils. Kari Yao.

Call 32-8863175 or PLDT toli free no. 1800-10-PETRON1 or visit



POPS Fernandez and Petron chair Nick Alcantara

Unicef cites new role models for Asian youth

THE UNITED Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) cited 12 Filipino volunteers as models for other Asian youth.

The young Filipinos, the first participants of the Unicef Volunteer Intern Program (VIP) in the Philippines, managed to raise, in just six weeks, P300,000 for needy Filipino children, using only their time and creativity.

Colin Davis, senior Unicef program officer, said the volunteers set an example that other young individuals all over Asia would strive to follow.

The 12 young people were from the Ateneo de Manila University, De La Salle University, University of the Philippines and University of Santo Tomas.

Initiated by Unicef and its partner agency, BCD Pinpoint, ViP aimed to encourage college students to make a difference in the lives of Filipino children during the school break.

ters in Metro Manila that were beloing sexually abused children recover from their traumand experiences.

Jay Chin, a volunteer from UST, approached a former first lady and a presidential daughter to soheit donations. His attempt to get Imelda Marcos to donate to his cause had him surrounded by her body-

On the same day in the same mail, Chiu also sported and asked for a donation from President Macapagal-Arroyo's daughter Luli. No bodyguards surrounded him and he found out she was already a regular Unice! donor.

Roney Ogapong of the UP said VIP helped volunteers to be better individuals and be more aware of the realities in the country, especially the plight of children.

The Unicef volunteers implemented two innovative fund-raising programs. One was the pledge solicitation program in two malls

Marikina. Their efforts drew the attention of, and donations from, Sen. Francis Pangilman and wife Sharon Cuneta, Cherie Gil, Heart Evangelista, Diether Ocampo, Ai Ai de las Alas, South Border and Unicef national ambassador, Gary Valenciano.

Missy Gonzales of DLSU said, when they started, they expected to touch the children's lives. But the children also touched the volunteers' lives.

Jackie Tan of Ateneo student said the experience opened their eyes to the current situation of most Filipmo children today. They also found out that, like them, the kids also had big dreams.

The money raised by the volunteers would help support Unicel's education programs in the Philippines.

The first group of Unicef VIP volunteers were Adrienne Lu and Jay Chuu from UST; Rachel Marquez, Alex Gutierrez, Tanya Ila-

Volunteers visited two Unicef-assisted cen- and the other an ukay-ukay weekend in cad, Julio Jose Gonzales and Jacklyn Tan from Ateneo; Roney Ogapong and Jobeth Fernandez from UP; and Missy Gonzales, Joj Lonzaga, and Marc Chua from DLSU.

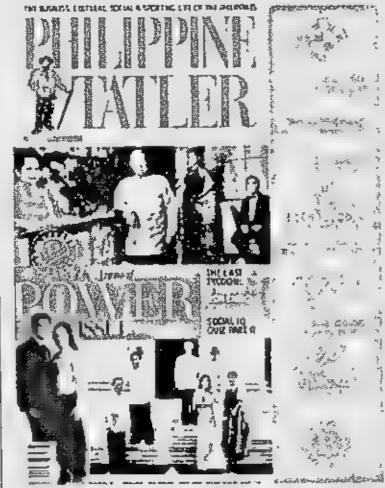
Those interested to join VIP can call the Unicef hotline, 7501000.



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Society mag marks 3rd anniversary



PHILIPPINE Tatler marks its third anniversary this month with the Power Issue, featuring 16 pages showcasing the movers and shakers of local politics, business, media, society, fashion, and arts and culture

Another highlight is a new Social IQ Quiz. Are you up to date when it comes to your social know-how? Find out by taking

A specially devised board game for the Tatler crowd has been added to the quiz.

The magazine also reports directly from the red carpet, as it chronicles the first-ever Director General's Ball of the Film Academy of the Philippines. The gluz and glamor of high society and local cinema are splashed in eight pages of the mag.

On a more serious note, read the inspiring story of the late Don Enrique Zobei, one of the country's foremost business leaders, n a poignant tribute.

At 240 pages, the September issue is Philippine Tatler's thickest edition evec.

Aside from the monthly premier society and lifestyle magazine, the Tatler Group has also launched "The World of Time"-8 must-have for watch collectors and aficionados; "Couture"-e biannual fashion bible; and the "Philippines' Best Restaurants Guide"—the indispensable handbook to the choicest dining spots in the country.

discover a healthier you...

Women's nutritional demands differ greatly from men. During reproductive and menopausal years, a woman's body goes through hormonal changes that may lead to deficiencies in Iron and calcium. Good nutrition, regular exercise and proper intake of vitamins and food supplements help women maintain an active and productive lifestyle while staying healthy and looking beautiful.

At Watsons Drug, a pharmacist is always ready to assist you especially when it comes to finding ways to help you meet your healthcare needs.

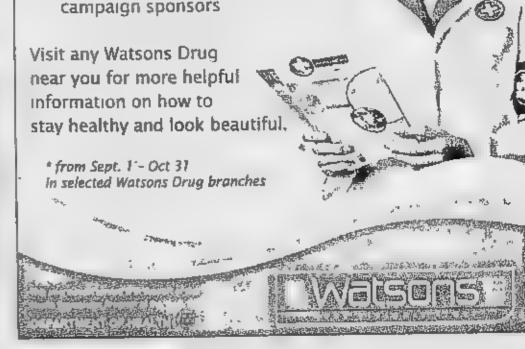
To address your health concerns, Watsons Drug has lined up a series of special activities, including:

· Free leaflets that provide valuable information on various women's health concerns

• Free Bone Scanning every weekend*

Free Dermatology Clinic*

 Product samplings courtesy of campaign sponsors



Davao museum holds benefit concert

AS the city's ethnographical and historical center. the Davao Museum seeks to inspire interest in the arts and culture among residents of the city and beyond.

Thus, it will hold a benefit concert on Sept. 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Marco Polo Hotel Grand Ballroom.

Titled "Musika Museo," the concert will feature J. Greg Zuniega, soprano Luz Morete-Martinez and baritone Lionel Guico.

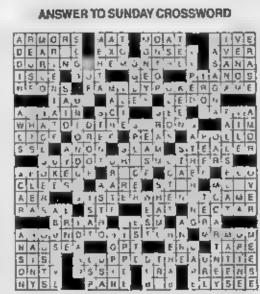
Zuniega received his musical training at the Moscow State Conservatory and the Royal College of Music in London, and has

performed classical music all over the Philippines.

A first-prize winner of the Nanonal Music Competitions for Young Artists and an alumna of the Philippine Madrigal Singers, Morete-Martinez is one of the country's leading coloratura sopranos. Baritone Guico, meanwhile, is a young but already experienced performer of opera and the musical theater.

The program will include solo piano pieces by Beethoven, Chopin and Buencamino, Williams; arias by Verdi, Strauss, Lara and Rossini; kundiman, Broadway selections and popular

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With art, theater, food, music and books all contributing to the exciting cultural scene in the country, we must all try to get exposed to the vibe from time to time



ladies—Tina Ocampo, Missy Ayala, Mia Borrameo and Carrie Uytengsu; 2. That's my new crush, jericho Rosales; 3. Gary V.'s women-Angeli Valenciano and Gina V. Martinez; 4. Gorgeous men-Ricco Ocampo, Fred Uytengsu and Anthony Pangilinan; 5. Family affair.







It's still **Wow** Philippines' for me 🦃

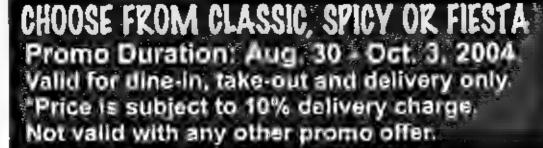
*TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

■HE CLOSING ceremonies of the 29th Olympic Games in Athens was an explosive and monumental production that showcased festive songs and dances unique to Greek culture.

There were marvelous performances by the country's top singers, cheered on by an anternational crowd and a cast of thousands of volanteers. The sense of a united, patriotic na-non could be felt in every seat of the 72,000capacity Olympic Stadium

When our country is finally selected to host the Games somet me in the future (never say





'Pag nasa opisina't eskuwela na sila. Para pag-uwi nila, bahay ay dengue-safe na.

Sunday LIFESTYLE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER: Living like the rich and famous

HSBC

Premier is probably the kind of offer you may find

difficult

to resist

Text and photos by Linda B. Bolido

FORGET about pyramiding.

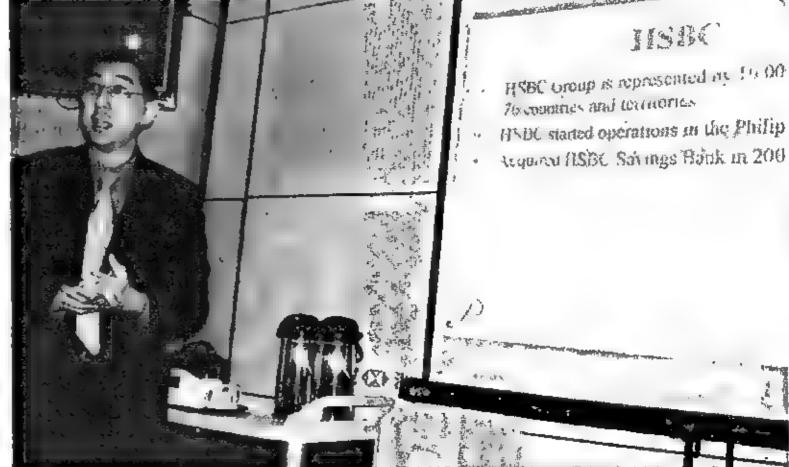
It may promise impressively high returns in double-quick time, but as many people have learned to their grief, the windfall is illusory and, instead of gold, you will end up with

If you have at least P3 million, or the foreign currency equivalent, saved up after years of hard work, careful husbanding of resources-even depriving yourself of some of the good things in life just to build a modest nest-isn't it time to enjoy the lifestyle you deserve while insuring that the money you worked so hard for is safe, secure and continuing to be fruitful?

Well, the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank (HSBC) may just have what you need. Its HS-BC Premier is probably the kind of offer you may be able to refuse but definitely will find difficult to resist-make your money earn without having to give up on the good things in life because your cash is fied up otherwise. With HSBC Premier you can expect recognition, relationship and reward.

International and local

Patrick Cheng, semor vice president for wealth management, says HSBC Premier is tailored for affluent chents "in recognition of the fact that they have special and specific needs." He gives the assurance that the Filipino client, who is always looking for the per-



PATRICK Cheng, senior vice president for wealth management, says HSBC Premier recognizes that "alluent clients have special and specific needs."

sonal touch, will get plenty of that. The bank may be operating internationally but it prides itself in being "the world's local bank." Every customer, who will avail of Premier's wealth management proposition, will have both HS-BC's "international expertise as well as the local touch," Cheng says. You can expect to get "the lughest level of personalized service" from your portfelio manager, who will guide you through the intricacies of investing your money.

The bank executive says HSBC Premier has a whole range of package for different clients and their willingness to take risks-from the most cautious to the bold and daring. But even if you are one for living life dangerously, you need not worry that the portfolio manager will take your cash bungee jumping, so to speak. Or at least not without your consent.

Your personal "financial adviser" will not leave you in the dark about what is happening to your money. "The best client is an informed chent," Cheng says, so the need to keep clients thoroughly informed so they are fully guided when making decisions is impressed upon portfolio managers. He adds that clients are encouraged to ask their portfolio managers whatever they want to know.

Even if you feel you are not savvy enough to asp fully the intricacies of international finance and investment, Cheng gives the assurance that internal checks are in place to make sure the portfolio manager does not misinform you or misrepresent facts. "I will want to check on a (portfolio manager) who seems to be doing well to make sure he/she is not misrepresenting thungs," Cheng says. If it turns out that the portfolio manager is really good at his/her job, then perhaps his/her techniques can be shared with the others, Cheng adds.



The bank also gives the assurance that every client will get the same kind of attention and service. If you are a woman, you need not worry that you will be treated like you never learned to add beyond two plus two. Cheng says in the four years that HSBC Premier has been available, women clients have proven to be just as sharp as the men.

And with HSBC Premier, you get plenty of rewards. Among other things, you can enjoy the perks of being a valued Filipino client in over 250 Premier Centers in 32 countries and territories abroad. The centers are separate from the general banking areas so you avoid the queues. They also offer such facilities as a library and Internet access, individual meeting rooms, coffee/tea service. You have global access to your funds through 24-hour personal phone banking, internet and mobile banking and automated teller machines (ATMs).

The bank waives fees for withdrawals made in HSBC cash machines anywhere, as well as commissions for exchanging foreign



THE BOYISH Ricky Cheung, sous chef of Renaissance Harbour View Hotel's Scala, promises a treat with his special six-course Cher's Surprise menu.



AS MANAGER of HSBC Hong Kong's Premier Center, Angie Y W F Wong runs a tight ship, making sure clients get the service

currency. You get a Mastercard with a high credit limit and the lowest finance charge, without paying any annual fees for ..fe.

Pampering

The finer things in life are equally accessible through HSBC Premier. You get invites to special lifestyle events aimed at strengthening the relationships between the bank and its chents, as well as discounts and other benefits in many establishments as part of the complementary Home & Away Privilege Program.

In Hong Kong, for instance, HSBC's corporate headquarters, if you are a Premier Master Card holder you get a 20 percent discount on food and beverage on Mondays and Tuesdays and 10 percent on Wednesdays and Sundays in all dining outlets of Renaissance Harbour View. A special treat is a six-course Chef's Surprise Menu at HK\$700 +10 percent per per-

At the Aveda Day Spa and Hair Salon, you get a 50 percent discount on your first facial treatment, which has a regular price of HS\$700, A 10 percent discount on regular nems is also given.

The storied Repuise Bay, backdrop for some scenes in the movie "Love Is a Many Splendored Thing," offers the Veranda's fourcourse Repulse Bay Classic Menu for only HK\$398, instead of the usual HK\$540.

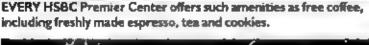
Instant rewards also await you if you harry and sign up as a new Premier client before Dec. 31—or if you invest fresh funds if already an existing customer or refer others. You have a choice of luxury gifts for him, her, families or kids.

So who says you can't have your cake and eat it, too? Joining the HSBC Premier will probably seem like having a whole cake to

Call 8305200 or 7555300, fax 8865343 or visit the HSBC website: wive hsbc.com.ph

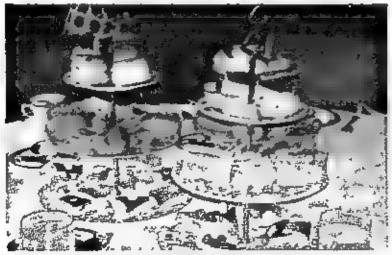


ELENA Shi, assistant manager for sales and training, explains the special kind of pampering one gets at the Aveda Day Spa and Hair Salon.



AT HSBC Premier Center, staff members are ready to provide any

kind of assistance, even fixing a loose screw in eyeglasses.



ALTHOUGH high tea at the storied flepulse Bay is heavy enough to make one want to skip dinner, the Veranda's four-course Repulse Bay Classic Menu may be difficult to resist.

Key to a new lifestyle



CELEBRATING the aunch of Discovery Suites' new lifestyle membership program are (from left) F's Daphne Oseña, ABS-CBN newscaster Karen Davila, Discovery Suites sales manager Cathy Nepumuceno, Mossimo endorser Brent Javier, host Hans Montenegro and Discovery Suites general manager Jack Tusson.

DISCOVERY Suites has un- Brent Javier talked about their favorite veiled its new Lifestyle Plus card.

The launch at the Serendipity Lounge was attended by businessmen, hotel people, show business personalities, media people and others.

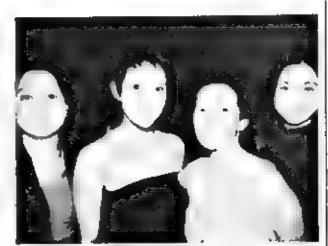
Discovery Suites general manager Jack Tuason welcomed guests to the event hosted by Angel Jacob. Gen Ennquez of the hotel's sales and marketmg team explained the benefits of being a Lifestyle Plus member. Membership, it was explained, also automatically made one a sponsor in the schooling of a child from a selected charitable

Celebrates like Daphne Oseña, Karen Davila, Ria Tanguatco-Trillo, Nina Castro, Hans Montenegro, Patry Laurel, and charities and got pledges from guests.

Entertainment was provided by The Company and Bituin Escalante,

The affair ended with a raffle of prizes from Mossimo, Johnnie Walker and The Foreign Post. A two-hour "Retrocoustie" act by RJ Jacinto and Cookie Chua capped the affair.

Among the benefits Lifestyle Plus members will enjoy are complementary accommodations, room upgrades, discounts on food, beverage and local residents packages. Also included are complimentary treatments from Discovery Spa, discounted services at the 41 BC hotel business center, a complimentary overnight stay at Discovery Tagayray inclusive of full country breakfast and afternoon tea for two persons, and discourts on purchases at Mossimo.



HOST Angel Jacob (2nd from left) is joined by ME Magazine's associate editor Mary Rose Jimenez (left), editor in chief Cathy Babao-Gubalia (3rd from left), and publicist Gwon Jacinto-Cariño (right).

Sunday LIFESTYLE











I. FROM Asia to Africa, Tracy and Binky Dizon; 2, Artsy couple Cheryl and Joe Hirenaka; 3. Show biz friends—Pinky Amador, Errie Lopez and Hylana Dizon; 4. Wacky sisters-in-law Pinky and Eileen Grey; 5. GROUP shot at Gallery 139; 6. Successful brothers Robert and Raul Francisca with Tint's Joanna Preysler; 7, Long-time friends—Jeens. Lopez, Victor Ordonez and Lenna Faralles; B. Family photo-Pinks, Harman and Vincent Grey







It's still 'Wow Philippines' for me

From page E1

never), I'm definite we can match the Greeks' sense of pride and appreciation of local culture and put up just as good a show as they did in their O ympics.

We currently don't have the patriotism to display our flag outside the windows of our homes, but somehow we still participate in or attend the various cultural activities happening in the coun-

Glory days

I didn't realize that we have falling economy.

With the movie "Imelda" reminding us of the glory days of Philippine arts and culture (I am not even going to dwell on the poatical aspects of the movie for fear of incessant debate about what was right and wrong with the era), the local art scene has

slow, y come back to center stage. An example of this was the opening of my funky artist friend Cheryl Villanueva Hironaka's art exhibit at Gailery 139, where I

was her sole guest of honor Chery,'s whimsica, and candid artworks are so refreshing and amusing I have several of her past works, and they blend so well in my equally cheerful home

At her saunch, I wore a volumenous, fuchsia shirt by Patrice Ramos-Diaz, with an original Hello Kitty top by Rajo Laurel.

Speaking of which, in celebration of the 30th birthday of the famous fehne, Gift Gate queen Virgie Ramos asked several celebraties to jazz up He lo Kitty tee shirts. So after I wore Raio's top, I sent it to G.ft Gate to be displayed. The kids in the opening asked if I was a princess or a fruit salad of some sort.

Aside from the art scene, the theater and music worlds are thriving, too.

Ongoing is the magical play, "A Midsummer Night's Dream" at the RCBC Theater, which is a must-see. Though some Shakespeare purists might lift an eyebrow or two, the creative local version is quite ingenious by doing part of the production in Tagalog to go with the Bard's ambic pentameter, which sounds

lke a foreign language anyway. Given that Shakespeare's works have been interpreted so creatively in movies and other theatrical productions, this Metropoutan Theater production should be fully supported.

Another delightful musical to watch is "Baby," where our Tony awardee and world-class artist Lea Salonga plays the lead role. I, has harrous takes on having a baby, gleaned through the lives of three unfamiliar couples, with excellent musical numbers exhibiting the talents of the brillians. cast

I went backstage to greet Agot Isidro Sandejas, who---l was pleasantly surprised to find out-could sing. She laughed and a nost hit me on the head as if to knock some sense into me that, yes, she is a darn good singer, indeed. I really should be more familiar with my local showbiz know-how.

Mixing musical genes

That night, I met the mother of Lea, Mrs. Ligaya Salonga, while she congratulated her son, Gerand, who was the show's conductor and musical director, I asked

her how she bred such gifted children, so that I might somehow lead my own in that direction.

But I think such talent has gotto do with genes-which means my kids will just have to marry a Salonga to get any of that into the broodline. My only musical talent is the "ka-ching" sound of the cash register.

Or if my kids don't have too far a gap from Gazy Vs children, maybe I could arrange a marriage deal with Gary and Angeli so we can have singing grandkids.

After watching his concert, I definitely knew talent is in the guite a number of thriving events blood. Even if I got a voice coach. of this kind, despite the free- or practiced endless hours with my karaoke buddy, Anton San Diego, I don't think I can do much more than make rain

Aside from the singing talent of the Valenciano clan, Gary's father Vic is also an excellent photographen He recently launched a book of photos of his Mr Pure Ea-

I had the pleasure of meeting the soft-spoken dad, who is so proud not only of Gary but of his entire brood. The personal scrapbook he made has different chapters written by each member of the family, beginning with Gary's lovely Latina mother

The last section is a showbiz photo gallery that includes Martin Nievera, which proves that Gary and Martin's so-called rivalry is all

showbiz make-beneve. And the funny photo alone of Pipay, everyone's friend Pops Fernandez, in this chapter makes the book a must buy

The book launch was held in the stylish home of long-time friends, Rucco and Tina Ocampo of Anonymous fame. Their house is perfect for events like this, and has so much of their shared personalities and characters.

I had just come from my new passion, a flamenco class with master teacher Ginajane Grey, and didn't have time to change because [also had a sit-down d.nner at Jacques Dupasqu'er's house later that evening. Needless to say, I was the first to arrive et Ricco and Tina's place, right at the time specified on the invite. Just shows that we can all improve!

Culinary flurry

Even the food arena has some specials going on For instance, the restaurant of HSBC Red Girl, Meliasa Sison, has a wine-tasting event with Premier Wines at MyLK in Greenbelt. Good Earth Restaurant, owned by Ana Martha Moreno, is opening this week in Ortigas. And I am sure much more is happening on the culinary front.

With art, theater, food, music and books an contributing to the exc.ring cultural scene in the country, we must all try to get exposed to the vibe from time to

The infectious feelings of pride and national unity that all Greeks had during the closing ceremonies inspired me to give my thumbs-up for the Philippines So. I wore my Adidas jacket with "Philippines" embiazoned on its back and told everyone I met in Greece to visit out beautiful country.

Why wait for the furure generation to make changes? We should all puch in to help make the Philippines-in all aspects-a much better place.

E-mail me at seaprincess@in-

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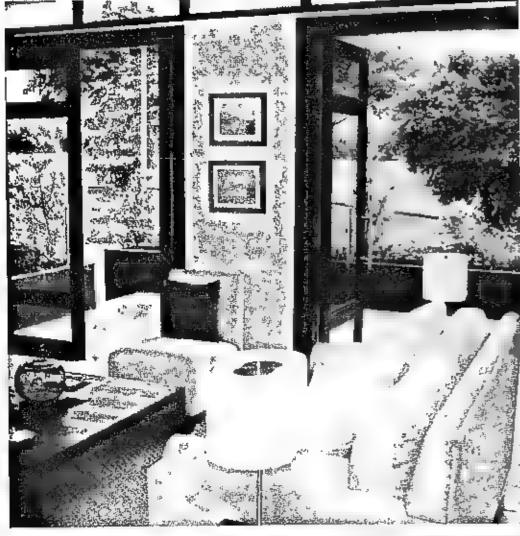
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YLEHome



GLASS doors that open out into the golf course



takes luxury living a step higher by but a cozy community nestled in the fring range

Sta. Elena Properties a step higher by building nestled in the fringes of a 27-hole golf course

STORY ON PAGE F3

DON'T BE SHOCKED, BUT THE WATER YOU DRINK CAN PUT YOUR BABY AT RISK.

This might come as shocking news, but the bottled water you're using may not be safe enough for your baby. The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends that buttled water be boiled to ensure sterility before using it for babies. Only bottled water that is certified as sterile, is recommended for direct use by inlants.

In its statement made in October 2000, the WHO stressed. "Some micro-organisms, which are normally of little or no public health significance, may grow to higher levels in bottled waters. This growth appears to occur less frequently in gasified water and in water bottled in glass containers compared to still water and water bottled in plastic containers. However, the public health significance of this remains title understood especially for vulnerable individuals, such as infants and children, pregnant women, immunocompromised individuals and the elderly. In regard to infants, as buttled water is not sterile, it should be disinfected - for example by boiling for one minute prior to its use in the preparation of infant formula."

The same concern is echoed by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (USFDA). Dr. Madeline Sigman-Grant, Ph.D., R.D., of the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and the AAP advise that babies should be given only sterilized water, be it for their formula, juice or cereal. The USFDA also recommends that consumers boil all non-sterile bottled water for one mounte before mixing it with infant formula.

Yes, you may say that different people have different needs. Adults may find mineral water fit for their active lifestyle. Ordinary bottled distilled water may do for most people. But for individuals whose immunity system is underdeveloped or in weak condition, water needs to be sterlized. One way to ensure that your baby receives safe water is to boil the water, bottles and nipples before feeding. Another safe and more convenient way is to use commercially available sterilized botiled water

A new product on the market fits this bill perfectly. Dr. Edwards™ Sterilized Drinking Water is specifically designed for people with higher safety needs in drinking water quality. Each bottle of Dr. Edwards W. undergoes med car-grade (autoclave) starilization to ensure 100% sterile water free from all forms of water-borne disease and confamination. And Morns, the great thing about Dr Edwards is that it's ready to use, you can kiss goodbye those days of boiling water and scrubbing and sterilizing bottles. Dr Edwards ** is a quality product of Advanced Nutritional Technologies (ANTECH), and manufactured exclusively by Euro-Med Laboratories, the country's leading manufacturer of sterile intravenous (IV) solutions. So rest assured, you're in sale hands with Dr. Edwards™ and it's now available at Mercury Drug and leading supermarkets and drugstores

Now that sterilization is out of the medical jargon, every Filipino mother (and everyone else for that matter) can readily enjoy the benefits of truly safe water as only Dr. Edwards™ Sterilized Drinking





SundayLIFESTYLE

Lessons from a Bicolana environmentalist

OME time ago, I received a letter from Portia Nayve Rossi, with whom I had lost contact for several years. A multi-awarded environmentalist, Rossi manages the Institute of Sustainable Rural Development Foundation, the Isarog Farms where she practices what she preaches, and the community-owned cooperative, Prosamapi, all in Pıli, Camarines Sur.

The projects were set up with her late husband Basil. The coop was organized to develop 2,000 hectares of agricultural and industrial land for the benefit of farmers and the community.

She continues the projects and programs and lectures on environmenta. management, her expertise. With five masteral degrees and a doctorate, she teaches at the institute and lectures in other colleges and universities, usually on ecological agriculture, pollution control, agro-forestry and environmental health.

The farm continues to be visited by students, researchers and fellow farmers who consider it a model.

Environmental pointers

I asked her for some of the environmental pointers she gave her students. Calling them "10 Ecological Perceptions," they were based on the writings of a favorite author, Thomas Berry, considered head of the Deep Ecology Movement of America.

A person who wants to know if he/she will survive through the 21st century, Rossi says, should draw the answers from those perceptions. She stresses the importance of seeing "the world as an integrated whole rather than a dissociated collection of parts." She says ecology is more encompassing and more comprehensive than most sciences. So, no matter where we think ecology originated-Earth, the solar system, the milky way, the galaxy, the universe-it cannot be denied that it revolves around a center from where all our spiritual energy and life force come.

Based on this and other writings, it seems the spiritual aspect of nature has not been obscured in some people's minds. It becomes clear that unless we acknowledge that a Supreme Creator is responsible for the existence of everything, we will never understand such simple things as why we should not cut trees in careless abandon, or kill animals



for the sake of killing or the thrill of it, why mountains and forests must be kept as pristine as possible, and why careful study and consultation should be done before they are touched, regardless of what our economic leaders say.

Rossi also says medical analogy should be used when looking at the earth. She gives some examples from James Lovelock's Gaia Theory, which states that Earth (Gasa) is alive but is very sick. "She has high fever due to the burning of fossil fuels, which cause reenhouse and global warming. Her blood in the circulatory system is polluted with toxic chemicals. The streams, rivers and creeks, which are her attenes and veins, are clogged with plastics. Her skeletal system is fractured due to overmining of minerals, which is the tracking system of the earth, so now she is wob-

"Her respiratory system is malfunc-

tioning. She has emphysema because we have plundered the lungs of the earth by illegal logging. She also has cirrhosis of the liver because her filtering systems—the mangroves—are turned into fishponds to feed an exploding human population. Her skin, the topsoil of the earth (which is also the base of our civilization), is being eroded by millions of tons each year. Mother Earth cannot even replenish herself because we are killing the decomposers (bacteria and other microorganisms) with pesticides."

Desensitizing earth

Some people have not even seen an earthworm, which digests organic wastes and turns these into topsoil. The earth is sentient through animals, but we are desensitizing her, not only by killing the animals, but also by controlling and manipulating them through genetic cod-

Rossi's pointers show us that every creature is part of the earth system and has a corresponding function. So what is the function of humans? Did God really put us in charge to multiply and subdue the earth and have dominion over all creation? What humans have done in the last two thousand years should give us

Rossi remnds us that we have been following western civilization-to the point of forgetting our own-even if it 💆 has not defined or even developed programs to contribute to the success of this planet's life systems. There has not been an awareness of people's responsibilities on earth until the 1990s. The culture has been unable to include any but the human in the pursuit of well-being.

Rossi says there must be change, and the economic system is a good place to start because it is based on production and consumption, which are getting to be more than earth can handle and are causing its filness. In its state of extreme distress, it is doubtful that it can recover, unless humans find a new way to relate to the rest of creation. Rossi answers the _____ question of the humans' role on this earth by quoting Berry: "It is in man that the earth thinks, reasons, decides, chooses. Therefore, the fate of the earth is in his—our—hands. Do we want to survive, commit suicide and go into extinction? Do we go on with our plundering ways? Or do we heal this sick planet?"

While we think of the answers, Rossi asks us to stop and reflect: Is the human species really worth saving?

E-mail the author at dorishuyda@ya-

VP De Castro opens garden show in QC

VICE President Noli de Castro formally um; Cora Purificacion's Brsdm Lilian Oca opened the ongoing mid-year Orchid and Garden Show of the Philippine Orchid Society (POS) at the sunken garden fronting the Que-

He was assisted by his wife, Arlene de Castro, Quezon City Mayor Sonny Belmonte and POS officers: president Rex Victor Puentespina, Willy Ortaliz, Vicky Lucanson, director Doy Salacop, Remy Rodis Santilices, Rolita Spowart and Zaldy de la Rosa.

On opening day of the exhibit, which ends tomorrow, the Cartleya Tainan City General, owned by Andres Golamco, Jr., was named Best-in-Show Orchid

Other winners were Golamco's Den. Bul-

"Hawaii" (Best Oncidium), Liparis condylobulbon (Best Cultured Plant) and Tricho. Brachiata (Best of Other Genera); Arsenio Sy's Paph. New Era X Paph., masterianum, Best Paphiopedilum, Cynthia M. Isidro's Phal. Mild No. 1, Best Phalaenopsis; Minda Garcia's Ren. Aazimah, Best Vandaceous Alliance and Best Monopodial Orchid; Mable Chua's Ren. Philippinensis, Best Philippine Species; and Puentespina's Paraphalaenopsis Laycockii as Best Foreign Species.

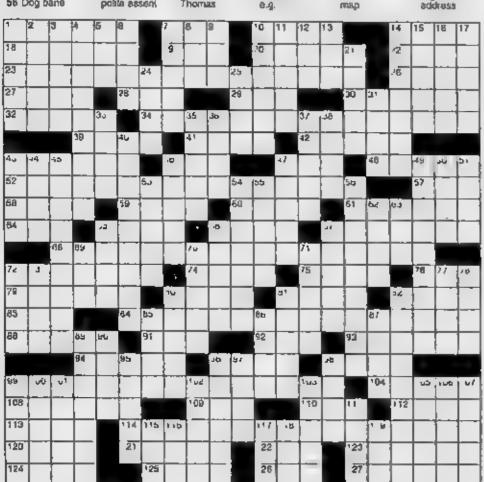
Purificacion won first place in the booth category. The group of Spowart, Golamco, Michael Espeso, Sy, Dennis Sy, Chola Bernardo and Lino Aromin was second; while Ma. Cynlenianum "Golden Harvest", Best Dendrob: thia M. Isidro of Mega Orchids was third.



VICE PRESIDENT Noti de Castro formally opens the mid-year show of the Philippine Orchid Society, which ends tomarrow, Sept.6.

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo NEED A LIFT? 59 DoubleStuf 88 Tay Mahal ACROSS 4 Set straight 46 Surgical 1 Knights li State nowei 47 Tennis 89 Harshiy 7 Turnbler's found in of Jiah senator Phil insulling, as 104 '83 Kealon-49 is a total flop surface pods Conductor 10 Castle 90 Baki eagle Garr Zubin -50 Scrabble comedy apcirclar Artemis 8 Good feller? 14 Reside 64 Seattle-to-51 108 Realing 9 Swift or Kile 95 Potato Love delty 18 Sweetle pie Tucson dip 10 Get one's placo. 65 Ever and -19 Profix with 109 Select, with worth 54 Fam editor. Hoorayi skeleton 66 Shut hard 11. In the lead 97 Haly's Villa at limes 20 Sart 110 SASE STA 67 Thief 22 Declare 68 Riddle, part 56 Corring 112 Slicky stulf latiout 98 With 74 positively logether ACLOSS, 23 Start of a 72 Enunciated 52 Hammer's Vampire emphatic more dearly 14 Layered striking and 26 Yemen's 74 See 98 114 Riddle's 63 Boat pasta dish 15 An ex-Trump capital Down **S**MSW@f propeller 99 Polsie Capri, e.g. 520 Airing, in a 75 WVYII battle 18 Poison 65 Votes in portrayer 28 Passo 17 Cloar the 29 Earth: France 121 Dayls of board 66 English 100 Orizzling Piot 21 Used a county 101 Forces out 30 Clavichord waitress 67 Soil Monty 122 Historical 24 Grass clump cousins 89 Hule words to a 32 Broadway Python 25 Eye instrument amorousty regular John 123 Fusses with blinkers 70 Spoul off 103 Place to get 34 Riddle, part Rhine leader Golf club Ti Four pairs dean 124 NASDAQ 72 Surgery #1 Ruckus 33 Uttered 105 Spouses 82 Ovid's 1,064 39 Lacking 73 Entreaty relative 35 Lilia 125 Window stack -- Lingus <u>וושנדי-פול</u> 41 Pub brews 36 Nastase of 64 Riddle, part section 77 cabineteer 126 Spd catcher Eduk termis capital 43 Ellington's 88 Tabulae Bread 78 Finished 111 Zorra's express (biank president's **80** Cherry apreads garment 115 Seer's gih slates) residence 38 Sharp 47 "Golly!" 48 Tarill-elimi-40 Teamsters 91 Holy Mile 61 SeaWorld 116 Neighbor of 92 Snack on DOWN fees, n.g. 43 Cobbiers' nating pact 1 Introduce in 117 New society \$2 Beatles' tools 44 "— end up" since 1/1/94 altractent the mix bassist gin 118 Quadn-2 Emptoy 52 Riddle, part 94 Prickly 85 "The Birne hand 45 Indy 500 iess one 57 Goal 96 Huck Flan's 119 High-tech 3 Actress 56 Dog bane poble assent Thomas map address



answer on page D3

Here comes computer-aided sewing

SINGER, the most trusted brand in sewing machines, offers a great new way to enjoy sewing.

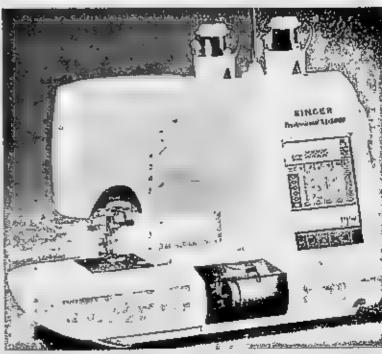
The Singer XL Computer Machine is a state-of-the-art sewing technology that allows novices and seasoned enthusiasts to their sewing conveniently using an IBM PC/AT computer, in tandem with the Professional Sew-Ware (PSW 2.00) and a Touch Control Screen (Built-in Sewing Consultant)

It comes in XL-1000 and XL-5000 models, with over 600 built-in designs, alongside unique features such as Automatic Thread Exchanger and Endless Bobbin. With the Singer XL Computer Machine, sewing is done by following a few simple instructions.

The Singer Computer Machine also offers a wide variety of patterns and hoops, 600 builtin surch programs, including a patented quilting stitch, as well as an embroidery software.

To mark its latest sewing innovation, Singer is holding a countrywide contest called "Stitching On Canvas," from July-Sept. 30. The competition is open to all owners of Singer zigzag machines who want to showcase their sewing skills. An entry must be in a finished size of 18 x 24 with a cloth size of 20×26 .

Concestants must accomplish an official entry form and identify the model and serial number of the Singer zigzag machine used for the entry.



Entry forms are available at all Singer area sales offices. Submission of entries must be no later than 5:30 p.m. of Sept. 30.

Call the Singer Customer Hotline 1-800-100-Singer for provincial areas and 5279958 for Metro Manila.

Computer Machine



WALING CUP WINNER

WILLY Tongeo of Batangas won first prize in the 3rd Wallog Cup, an invitational flower arranging competition held at the Apo View Hotel in Davao City, held in conjunction with the recent Kadayawan sa Davao festival. The Waling Cup is organized annually by Puentespina Orchids and Tropical Plants Inc. Tongco, who bested 12 other participants from all over the country, is shown with members of the board of judges and the Puentespina family: Angel Puentespina, Lynic Denlia of Iloilo, Peter Daeman of Holland, Rodel

Vista of Manila (2nd prize), Randy Corteza of South Cotabato (3rd prize), Ponchit Ponce Enrile of Bacolod, Charita Puentespina and Rex Victor Puentespina.

Sunday LIFESTYLE

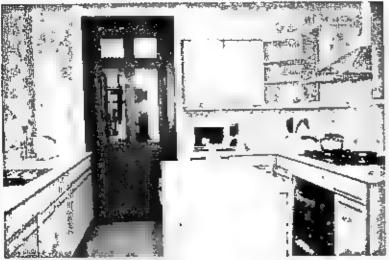


DINING area can easily fit six-seater table.



MASTER bedroom

Home on the range



KITCHEN with sleek, modular cabinets



Text by Alex Y. Vergara Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan

UILDING a home in Sta. Elena Golf and Residential Community is like owning a piece of one of Asia's top golf courses. The developers behind the project, a 260-ha property in Sta. Rosa, Laguna, about 40 minutes south of Metro Manila, never fail to stress this point to potential buyers.

They're probably not exaggerating. Apart from offering urbanites an escape from the city's din and pollution, the development has been cited by the Asian Golf Monthly as the country's best golf course for two years in a row, and second best in Asia next to Thailand's Nirwana.

And the best part is, you don't have to be an avid golfer or own shares to build a home in its two adjacent villages-Sta. Elena Village outation among After firmly securing its rep golfers, Sta. Elena Properties has moved to the next level and is slowly turning the week end destination into a viable community nestled in the fringes of its 27-hole golf course.

"We want the place to thrive with life," says Gippy Tantoco, the project's VP for business development and marketing, "so pockets of villages were designed to surround the golf course."

What he probably means is promote biodiversity. As a sanctuary for resident and migratory birds-100 species as of last count, and countless species of plants--Sta. Elena is already teeming with life. It has been cited by Audubon for its efforts to preserve the environment

Since Banahaw is already fairly developed, Tantoco and company have trained their energies in promoting Sierra Madre. For those who don't want to go through the hassles of constructing a house, Sta. Elena is offering houseand-lot packages starting at P9 million.

No headaches

A typical two-story, three-bedroom house designed by architect Dan Lichauco has a tocal floor area of 185 sq m and sits on a 340 sq m lot A bigger, pricer option at P11 million has a total floor area of 240 sq m and also comes with three bedrooms, family room and den, which can be turned into a fourth bedroom or an extension of the living room.

"Building a house from the ground up can be fun," says Tantoco. "But some people want to do away with the usual headaches that come with construction. These ready-made houses are designed for them."

that would crisscross the future village had been laid out. Tantoco estimates that close to 30 percent of their clients will avail themselves of a house and lot package.

Of course, buyers can forego pre-designed houses and settle for a lot at P3 million. They can build their dream houses with relative freedom, as Sta. Elena, unlike some exclusive villages, doesn't have too many restrictions when it comes to a prescribed theme.

Houses with earthy colors and Asian touches a Balinese theme, for instance, is favored in Banahaw to mutor the look of its clubhouse-are encouraged. This, however, hasn't stopped a homeowner from building his idea of an American home sans picket fences.

Homeowners, however, are required to observe the four meter easement rule. In other words, they should allot a four-meter buffer between their houses' "buildable" areas and Banahaw and Sta. Elena Village Sierra Madre. the surrounding perimerer walls---or in Sierra Madre's case, green, eco-friendly hedges Thus, future houses in effect will be eight meters apart.



Aside from giving houses more breathing space, says Tantoco, their occupants will have more room to savor the view. After all, the property's pristine surroundings are still its



TERRACE for outdoor parties



ONE of upstairs bathrooms

primary come-ons.

"We encourage them to plant trees been their propernes." he adds, "They definitely look a lot friendher than perimeter

This philosophy is reflected in the way houses in Sierra Madre are arranged. The model unit, for instance, faces the main road and has a good view of the golf course. Unlike most houses, its garage and service area are positioned in the back, where they face a narrower secondary road. No cars will be allowed to park on the main road.

"This is beneficial to both occupants and joggers," says Tantoco. "Homeowners will have an unumpeded view of the golf course, while joggers will no longer have to stop every so often as they jog to avoid or negotiate their way around parked cars."

Necessary but sometimes unsightly chores such as garbage collection are confined to secondary roads. Glass doors on the front and left side of the house double as French windows. The main entrance is actually a pair of wooden double doors also located on the house's left side.

A concrete and elevated terrace, which can later be extended to become part of the house, is ideal for outdoor parties. And since this is a gated community, homeowners can sleep soundly despite the prevalence of glass doors and windows.

The only thing they have to fear, perhaps, is an occasional stray golf ball or two. But this scenario seems farfetched as well, as those who frequent Sta. Elena's putting green are mostly seasoned players.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquir-





encom.ph

ADDITIONAL area for future extension



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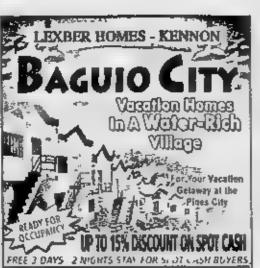
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SCOTTISH-BORN Australian chef lan McKenzie joins PAL for the

and away

STORY ON PAGE G3



Diabetes Myths Debunked

Part 3

Myth 7. Unlimited amounts of fruits are good for people with diabetes. False! Although fruits have been known to be a good source of fiber, they are a very good source of sugar (fractose) as well. That is why unlimited consumption of fruits may aggravate sugar control in people with diabetes.

Myth 8. Insulin is habit-forming

False! Insulin remains to be one of the most effective medications that can be given to patients with diabetes. In fact, it is so effective that many people feel its effect immediately. It is not surprising that these individuals would experience a good sense of

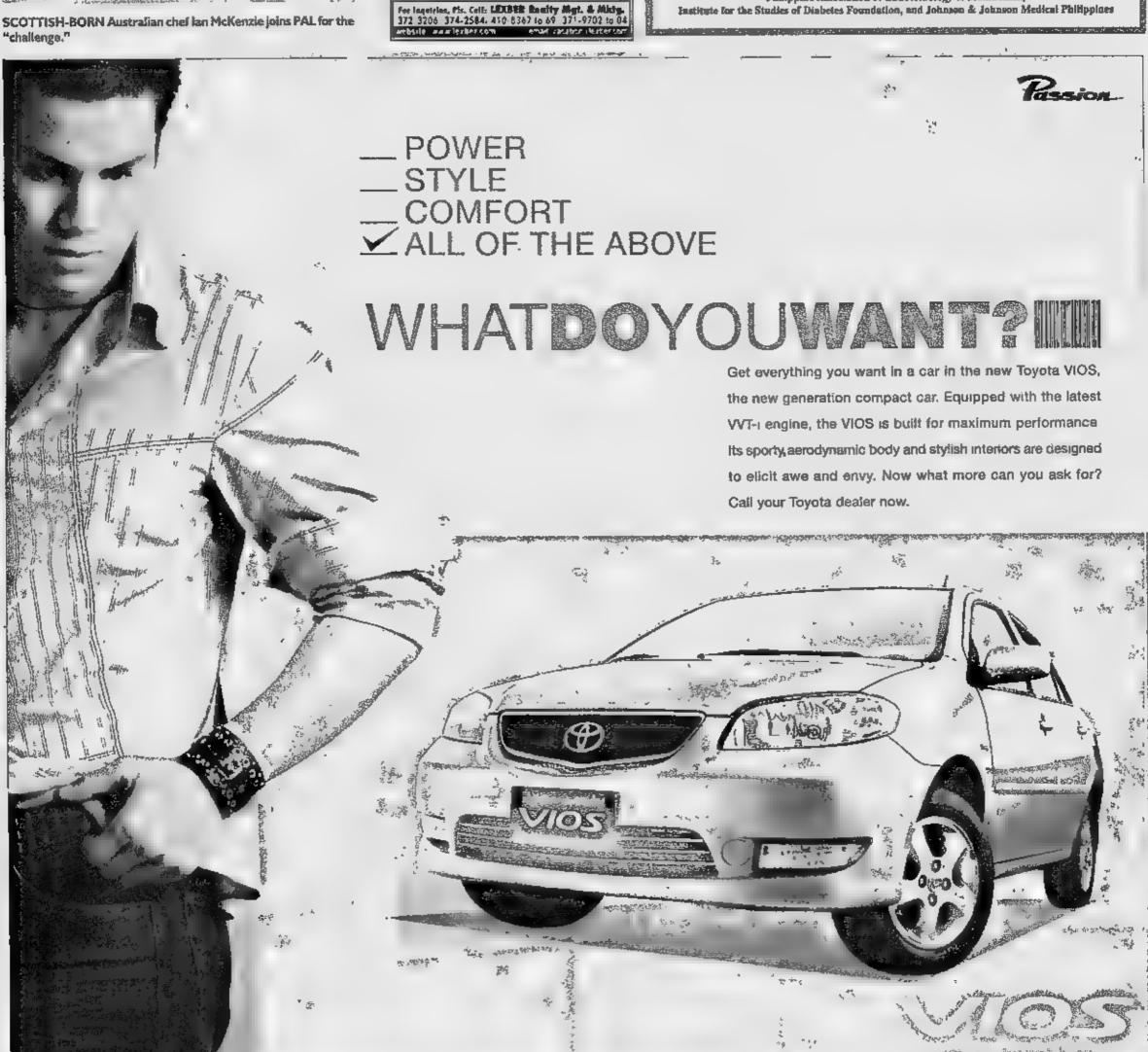
well-being - a state that they have been missing for so long because of uncontrolled blood sugar levels. This phenomenon is what is sometimes misconstrued as "habit-forming". Myth 9. There is no need to do exercise and diet as long. as one takes his medication/s to lower blood sugar.

Faise! Diabetes is a disease because of problems in the body's metabolism. Before the onset of diabetes, proper diet and exercise can dramatically increase the

Fight Diabetes! likelihood of correcting these metabolic problems. Once diabetes has set in, proper diet and exercise are a must so that medications can work efficiently. The role of medications

in the management of diabetes is generally supportive in nature. We will appreciate your feedback or quartes as we go along. Please call us at 824-8736, fax no. 624-1345, e-mail at service@lifescanphilippines.jnj.com or visit our website http://ilfescanphilippines.com.

Diabetes Center Philippines, Philippine Diabetes Association, Philippine Association of Endocrinology & Metabolism, Institute for the Studies of Dinbetes Foundation, and Johnson & Johnson Medical Philippines





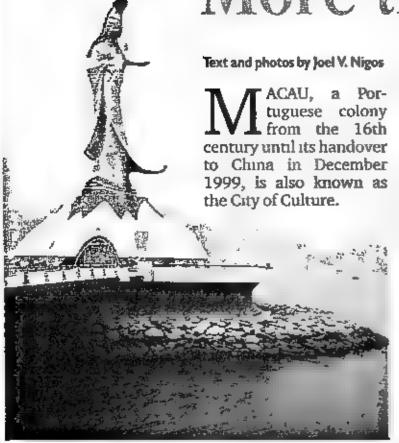
Sunday LIFESTYLE

Macau is a city not just for gamblers but also for the religious and the culture vulture

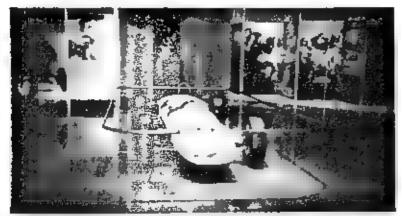


THE 17TH-CENTURY runs of St. Paul, the most famous site in Macau

More than just a land of casinos



AT THE OUTER Harbor is the Statue of Kun lam, the Buddhist goddess of mercy. Standing 20 meters tall, it was designed by a Portuguese sculptor and is made of special bronze.



MEMORABILIA of Filipino Arsenio "Dodjie" Laurel, the only racer to win back-to-back in the Macau Grand Prix, in the museum for the carrace



THE A-MA Temple, built in honor of the Taoist goddess of seafavers



TYPICAL Macanese houses, built in 1921, have been transformed into the Taipa House Museum.

Portuguese heritage blending well with traditional Chinese culture. Macau is more than just the land of Stanley Ho and the castnos. It is also a place of history, religion, food and shopping!

The city, only 23.8 sq km in total land area, attracts some 10 million visitors a year. But then, Macau boasts of many interesting places to see.

Macau has preserved her heritage well from the cobbled-stone sidewalks to the façade of old buildings with European-inspired architecture.

Old and new

New structures have been designed to blend well with the oldgovernment buildings, houses and Portuguese fortresses have been preserved by converting them into museums.

The Largo do Senado, with its Porruguese-styled mosaic stone pavement, is where Macau's mixmatch of cultures is most obvious. This is also the shopping center with bargains typical of Filipino tiangge, as well as designer shops.

The plaza has a spherical fountain in the middle. Patterned after a Portuguese square, it is surrounded by civic buildings.

Since the Portuguese occupied Macau, churches are among the city's major attractions. Some of the churches were built in the 16th century but have been wellpreserved. Traditional Oriental features give a distinctive look to the predominantly European Baroque architecture.

Magnificent ruins

The 17th century church of St. Paul, though reduced to rums, still has its stone façade and the grand staucase to attest to its magnificence.

It now uses in four colonnaded tiers and is covered with carvings and statues that eloquently illustrate the early days of the Catholic church in Asia. The most famous site in Macau, thousands of visitors, Christians or otherwise, walk through the rums every day.

The Chapel of Our Lady of Guia, built in the 17th century as part of the Guia Fort, is another imposing structure. The Chapel of Our Lady of Penha on Penha Hill is frequented by sailors embarking on hazardous voyages. The St. Joseph Church and Seminary, meanwhile, is not only a famous landmark, but is also a favorite subject of artists.

Oriental religions also have many interesting places of worship, like the A-Ma Temple, built in honor of the Tanist goddess of seafarers.

Macau residents favor leisurely meals. They take from an hour and a half to two hours to finish their food. But then, Macau's mut of Chinese, Portuguese and

East meets West in this city, the Macanese food makes one want to savor his meals at a leisurely

Outlying islands

Macau also has two outlying islands-Taipa and Coloane. Taipa is famous for its row of five restored houses built in 1921. The typical Macanese houses have become the Tarpa House-Museum.

In Coloane is where the egg tart of Lord Stow's Bakery, now famous throughout Asia, originated. This is where the St. Francis Xavier Chapel can be found.

At the Outer Harbor is the statue of Kun lam, the Buddhist goddess of mercy. Standing 20 meters tall, it was designed by a Portuguese sculptor and made er edifices. Old and important of a special bronze. The figure rises from a lotus base which houses an ecumenical center and exhibitions on different Chinese faiths.

Latest attraction

Macau Tower is the latest attraction in the former Portuguese territory. Located on a spectacular site fronting Nam Van Lake and soaring 338 meters above the city, it is the 10th tallest freestanding tower in the world. It was inaugurated on the second anniversary of Macau's handover to China in December 2001 and was built at a cost of HK\$1 bil-

The Skywalk X, the tower's main outer rim, is 233 meters above ground and only 1.4 meters wide, with no handrail or glass wall. It offers a breathtaking panoramic view of the city.



SOARING 338 meters above the city is the Macau Tower.

Other interesting items a visitor can put on his Macau itinerary are the Grayhound Racing, the casmos such as the Casino Lisboa, China's border gates, the Museu de Macau and the Mantime Museum, tai chi 101 lessons at the Jardim de Lou Lim loc, the Red Market, and a trip down memory lane at the Wine and Grand Prix museums.

Or one can simply spend time watching the men carrying birds in cages walk by.



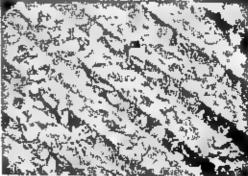
CASINO Lisboa at night

BLACK-SAND beach at



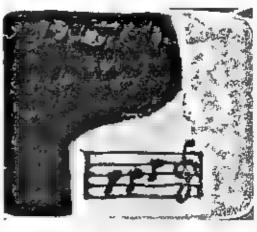
THE LARGO do Senado, with its Portuguese-style mosaic stone pavement, is at the heart of the city.





scented apples with cream cheese topped with granola crust and almond slivers

CHOCOLATE and Nugotin Mousse, freshly prepared mousse accompanied by mango or chocolate sauce



PHILIPPINE Airlines hors d'oeuvres

Up, up and away for Pinoy fare

Text by Vangie Baga-Reyes Photos by Roger Margallo

IRLINE food has improved dramatically over the years, in terms of both of the airlines that take food seriously is Philippine Airlines. So serious, in fact, that just last week, PAL launched its latest inflight menu for year 2004-2005 and welcomed its newest executive chef

highly qualified executive chef to impart his "world-class" culnary expernse to its pool of local chefs Scottish-born Australian chef lan Hall McKenzie so impressed PAL with his vast experience in both hote, and airline catering that he has been tasked to "restyle" the airmne's inflight menu, with more emphasis on Filipino flavors and ingredients

"I think it's about time to focus on the Philippines' local resources and come up with dishes that will excite people onboard," McKenzie says

McKenzie has had 14 years of hotel experience before deciding in the early 1980s to move to a more challenging job-airline

catering. He joined Ansett Australia Airlines as an executive chef in 1984. After 11 years with Ansett, McKenzie took his chef's hat to Kuala Lumpur as executive chef for production and de-

velopment at Malaysia Airlines. in 1998, he moved to Taiper taste and variety. And one as corporate executive chef for China Airlines. He was put in charge of menu design for all trans-continental routes and for ensuring the airline's adherence to strict hygiene standards.

Interesting challenge

the Philippines' flagship carrier for the "challenge."

"I've traveled a lot in Asia and PAL has hired the services of a 1 have basic ideas of what each country offers," he says. "The Philippines is one interesting country where food is heavily influenced by its history and geography."

For PAL, McKenzie has developed menus that evoke the rich ethnic palates of the islands, but with a modern twist.

"Filipino cuisine has its merits vis-à vis other world cuismes. What I want to do is revisit old standards, update them and make them contemporary. It's a bit like putting new wheels on an old car," he says.

McKenzie has taken such Filipino kitchen staples as patis (fish sauce), calamans: (a local lime), achuete (annatto seed),

Philippine Airlines' new chef has been tasked to 'restyle' the airline's inflight menu to put Last April, McKenzie joined more emphasis on Filipino flavors and ingredients

> hibi (dried shrimp) and coconut vinegar, and incorporated these into his preparations.

> "We shouldn't make patis like something that's poison out of a jar. Thai fish sauce has been elevated to culinary heights. But the only reason it got there is because the Thais spend a lot of time promoting their food, whereas Filipinos don't have that high an opinion of certain ingredients. Why shouldn't we use paris? I like it and am proud of ir," he says.



LIME-MARINATED Baked King Prawns topped with tropical salsa

McKenzie will also be using more lettuce and sprouts from Baguio and Tagaytay for his salads, as well as kangkong and talbos ng kamote in a variety of ways. For dessert, he plans to make ample use of tropical fruits like mango, langka and

"There are a lot of interesting things you can eat," he says.

"You just have to explore your cuising and reinvent it for the modern chentele. As the country's premier international airline, PAL can promote Filipino food in a big way."

New dishes

So, what new dishes can we expect to find on PAI's mena now that McKenzie has lent his creativity, flair and expertise to

the bill of fare? For the entrée selections, McKenzie dishes out Osso Buco, stow-cooked yeal shanks garnished with gremolata, Lime-Marsnated Baked King Prawns, topped with mayonnaise and served with tropical salsa, and Pork Sh.n with R.ce Wine, braised in rice and soy sauce, served on a bed of water spinach

and seasoned with fish sauce For dessert, there are Chocolate and Nugotin Mousse, freshly prepared mousse accompanied with mango or chocolate sauce; Apple Nut Cheese Pie, warm cinnamon-scented apples with cream cheese topped with granola crust and almond slivers; and Mango Strudel, crisp

layers of paper-than crust filled with spiced mango slices.

To further infuse and promote genuine Filipino products onboard its flights, PAL has included two internationally known Fil.pino food brands, Goldilocks and Figuro

Gordnocks will be a delicious part of PAL domestic trips, offering snacks such as tuna, comed beef and chicken rolls, Complementing these are cake slices that include classic favorites ike marble and choco butter and vanilla chiffon. New flavors such as apple and banana nut also comprise the product

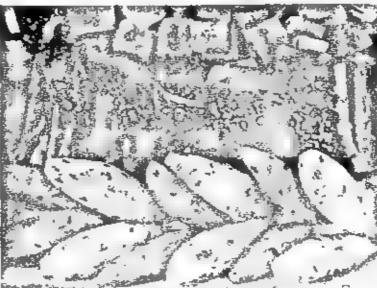
The popular Figaro Classico blend will also be served on all PAL international flights

The new menus will be gradually introduced on PAL flights this month. By December, ail flights will be serving the new recipes and these will run in varying cycles on the flag carrier's international, Asian regional and domestic services until November 2005

E-mail the author at voaga@inquirer.com ph



BRAISED Pork Shin with rice wine on kongkong and banana leaf



A MEDLEY of garden greens with rice wine and sweet soya dressing

Nonstop service to Cape Town

Singapore Airlines (SIA) will launch a weekly nonstop service to Cape Town South Africa, from Singapore on Oct. 31.

The weekly nonstop service will complement the airline's twiceweakly services to the city via Jobannesburg

A "Getaway with SIA" package for South Africa is available from \$2,590 This includes economy air-

fare, a seven-night stay in four- and five-star hotels, full day tours and full board meals. Call SIA at B104951

Lean-season package

Pink Pake, a triple-A resort in Boracay island, recently unveiled its lean season package, available until

The gackage includes three days/two nights with deluce room accommodation, breakfast, one

dinner, transfer via Kahbo/Caticlan airports, boat ride to/from Catician seaport terminal and weicome drinks, plus free use of the swimming pool, kiddle pool, Jacuzzi and 20-parcent discount for the use of Alpha Fitness Center and wall-

climbing facilities. Single occupancy is P6,488 net/person. Twin sharing is P3,888 nel/person and extra night with breakfast is P1,285 net/person. Child rate is PB25 net/person and

extra night with breakfast is P200 net/person.

Airline gets award for excellence

Korean national carrier Asiana Airlines (OZ) received the Skytrax Airfine Excellence Award for Asia recently for "truly exemplary levels of statt service delivery." Aslana was also described a "potential live-star

The award was accepted by the

airlines' president Chan Bup Park In

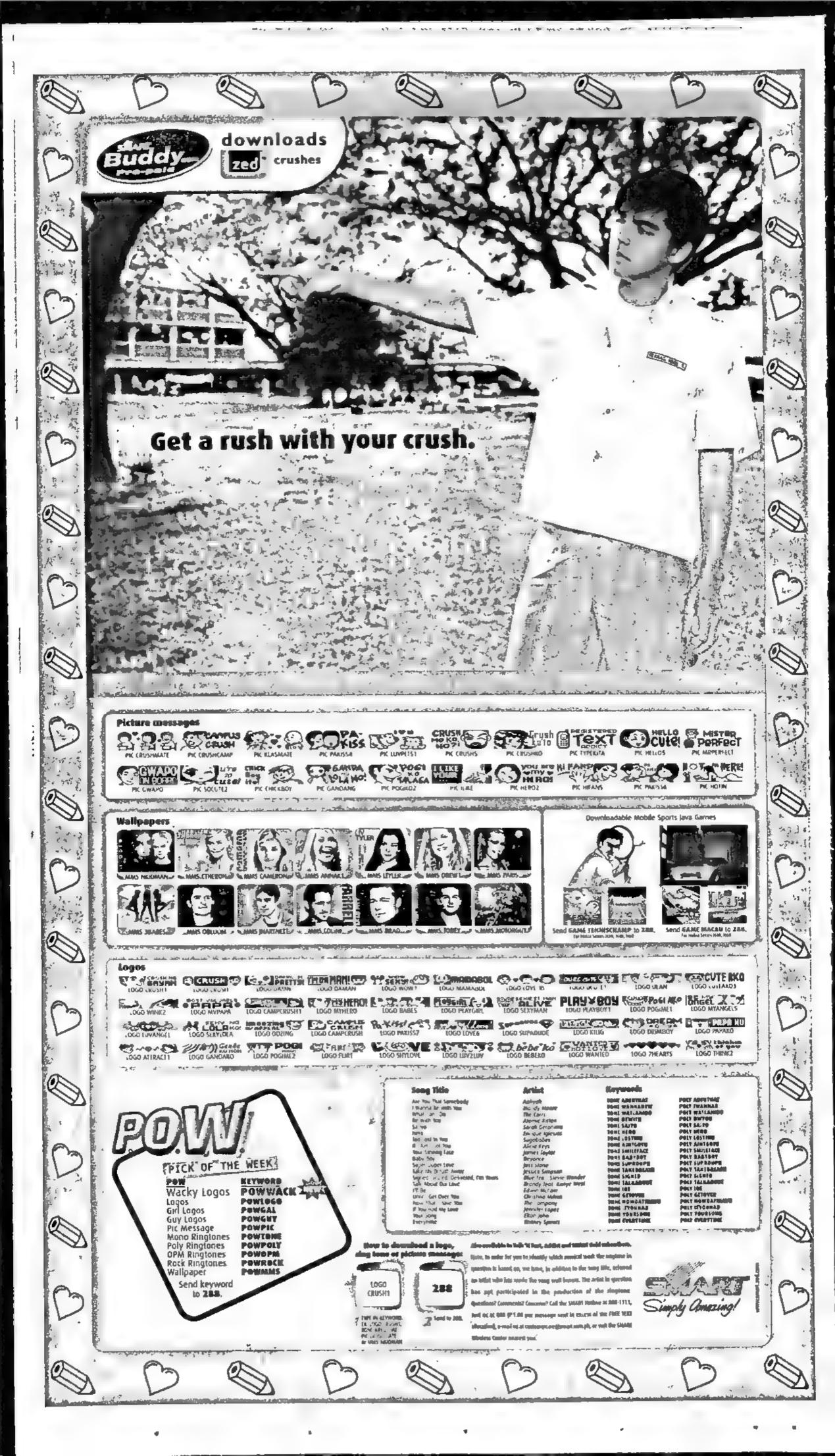
Skylrax, a London-based private research and audit firm for the airline and air transport industry, selects the year's best airlines and airports through independent study,

passenger surveys and forums OZ has also received the Gold distinction from the international Flight Catering Association and international Inflight Food Service Association.

The airline aunched recently the Man a-Busan Hight Call OZ at 8925688

Wireless advantage -

In response to the demand of Iravelling internet users, Traders Hotel Manila recently installed wireless access point (WAP) hat spots in strategic areas of the hoter, and opened colfee com, a 24-hour business center and Internet calé. Call 5237011/3971 to 80.



Ind they said it couldn't,

Distance seemed just one of the many obstacles to Aldrich Kho and Richelle Sy's marriage



covering the presidential elections.

HE thought her sister was crazy for fixing her up with someone from Iloilo. He thought wooing a career girl in Manila would never work out.

Richelle Sy and Helli

Inninesemen Aldrich: Kho prove that

apposites de attract.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5,

She thought he was too provincial, needed a haircut, and too straight for her. He thought she was too independent and contmitted to her career to want to relocate to the province.

They thought that one dinner et Sugi in Greenbelt 2 last year pagal-Arroyo's campaign. was going to be strictly one-off.

But, regardless of what they thought, it seemed God had other plans for GMA 7 reporter Richelle Sy and liotlo-based businessman Aldrich Kho.

The occasional text messages from Kho to Sy soon averaged 80 to 100 a day. Soon he was also burning the phone lines from Iloilo to Manila. Kho's visits to Manila also became more frequent. He would pick her up from her office or Malacañang, or wherever she was assigned.

A little over a month after their

meeting, the two officially became a couple. And right after the hectic coverage of the October visit in Manila of United States President George W. Bush, she accepted his marriage proposal over dinner at Blue Bacon and Green Eggs. They set the date for the wedding on July 11.

Planning the wedding, however, was not easy—he was in Iloilo and she was in Manila. Sy had to make her calls to suppliers in between trips around the country as she was covering President Maca-

Getting a venue was the first problem. With the wedding set for July, it seemed the bride had to abandon her dream of a garden wedding in favor of a church or hotel. But hotels were fully booked. The only place available was Fernwood Gardens. Sy's dream of a garden wedding was going to be fulfilled, after all.

But tragedy struck. Sy's father suddenly passed away in early June, some six weeks before the wedding. With everything already in place for the wedding,

AND THEY/H2



Marianno Lazaro, who also made orange and fuchsia gowns for the



is escorted by her mether, Vieleta Sy, and uncle jayme Sy.





Eastwood Cybermall in Eastwood City Cyberpark

Sunday LIFESTYLE



CALIMBAS DEBUT

Krystle Rodulfo Calimbas will celebrate her 18th birthday at the Crown Royale Hotel, Balanga City, Bataan, on Sept. 11. A biology sophomore of De La Salle University, she is the daughter of Doctors Catalino and Edna Calimbas. The debutante will wear an Eddie Baddeo creation—a celadon green and purple bustier gown made of shantung and chiffon. The bodice is embossed with flower appliques. The full bias skirt is embellished with caviar heads.

Music will be provided by the DLSU Pop Orchestra, where Krystle is a v.o.in.st and head of the string section. Choreography is by Kenneth Haldt and overast coordination by Wewe Ocampo.



MANIO-RAZOTE

Jesus Cruz Manio, son of Antonio Manio and Erlinda Cruz, will marry Pinky Garcia Razote, daughter of Orlando Razote and Nelia Balgua, on Sept. 25, at the San Agustin Church in Intramuros, Manila. Reception will follow at The Orchidarium, Rizal Park, Manila.



GANADOS-YAP

Charlotte Ganados, daughter of Luz and Cesar Ganados, will marry Abraham Yap Jr. on Oct. 23 at The Shrine of Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life. Reception will follow at Heritage

The bride's gown, designed by Jay Masangya, is a tent-silhouette duchess samm creation with the bust encrusted with crystals and pearls. The bodice is embellished with two kinds of beads in intricate Baroque design. The ensemble features

a crushed georgette off-shoulder piece which extends and twists at the back.

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple to the lu-Quiner office, or P.O. Bax 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City, or e-mail lifestyle@inquirez.com.ph. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.



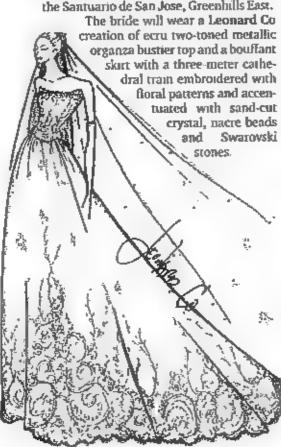
WYRZYNSKI-MOSINABRE

Abegail Mosmabre, daughter of Angelino and Rosalinda Mosinabre, and John Joseph Wyrzynski, son of John Alexandar and Adelaida (deceased) Wyrzynski, exchanged vows recently at the Saint Vincent Church, Ashfield, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.

Ben Farrales designed the bride's wedding gown using tvory pearls, beads and rhinestones on the front bustier down to the gown's edge. Afternoon tea followed at the couple's residence in Strathfield. Dinner was at the Black Stump Restaurant, Bankstown, Sydney.

REMONTE-OPPUS

Anna Marie Oppus, daughter of Danilo and Imelda Oppus, will exchange vows with Edgar Ryan Remonte, son of Edgardo and Salvacion Remonte, on Sept. 8 at the Santuario de San Jose, Greenhills East.



Prayer and reflection via phone

NOW, your cellular phone can be your spiritual companion with Smart Communications Inc.'s Mobile Rosary, Mobile Way of the Cross and Daily Reflections.

These wireless services assist subscribers in praying the Rosary even without a beaded rosary on hand, or complete the Way of the Cross without having to walk through the 14 stations in church.

The programs take the subscriber through the prayers, providing inspirational texts and appropriate images along the way, all on the screen of their cellular phone.,

The Mobile Rosary helps count the beads by providing a visual rosary to follow, moving onto the next bead whenever "Amen" appears and is clicked on the phone. The program also provides passages and images that help the subscribers reflect on the meaning of each

Similarly, the Mobile Way of the Cross guides the subscriber through the prayers while presenting appropriate images and passages to help the subscriber meditate on the meaning of each station.

The Mobile Rosary and Mobile Way of the Cross are available to Smart and Talk 'N Text subscribers who own Java-capable phones. Subscribers can download these programs by visiting the Smart WAP site on their cellular phone, scrolling down to select Java Applications and then clicking on Spiritual.

The Mobile Rosary and Mobile Stations of the Cross will be listed as one of the downloadable programs. Each download costs

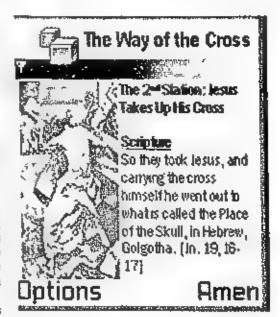
Daily Reflections is a subscription service that allows the subscriber to download and receive reflections and images on different themes from the Mass on that day.

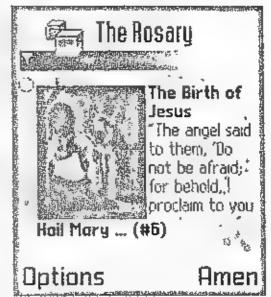
Also available to Smart and Talk 'N Text subscribers, subscription to the service requires sending "Reflectat" for SMS or "Reflectmins" for MMS to 352. The subscriber will receive an SMS/MMS reflection daily, until they unsubscribe.

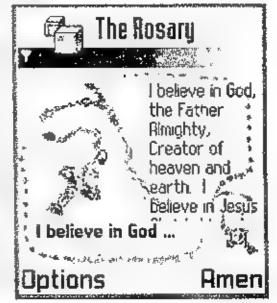
To stop receiving Daily Reflections, text "Reflectat Off" for SMS or "Reflectmons Off" for MMS, and send at to 352. The subscriber can also avail of a single reflection on the day of their choice by texting "Reflectixt Now" for SMS or "Reflectmms Now" for MMS and sending to 352.

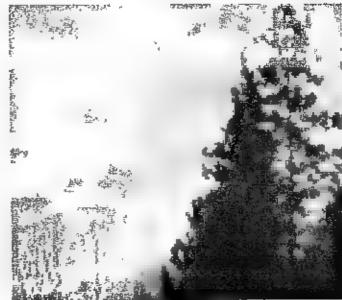
If any problems occur, the subscriber can ask for help by texting "Reflect, Reflectxt Help" or "Reflectmms Help" to 352. Each SMS reflection costs P2 50 and each MMS reflection costs P5 for Addict subscribers and P10 for non-Addict subscribers.

For subscribers who wish to have a month's worth of reflections already on their phone, a downloadable version of the Daily Reflections is also available on the Smart WAP website, along with the other spiritual programs under Java Applications.









SAMPLE Daily Reflection

Jesus, Risen Lord, you are present among us, though nvisible to our human sight. Through our gaze of faith, we know that we can perceive you Where do we encounter today, Risen Lord? Are you not with us through the words of Sacred Scripture? We meet, hear and listen to you as we read the Easter stones. The holy women, the apostles and disciples see you, Living Lord. We too encounter you, as we read the Gospels, attentively, lovingly, prayerfully.

And they said it couldn't happen!



HE did not think a relationship with a career girl in Manila would work.

both families decided against a postpone-

July 11 was bright and sunny. Guests came from the groom's native Hoilo, and from as far away as the United States.

The bride wore a strapless ivory gown made of Mikado silk, with showers of Japanese beads and Swarovski crystals by designer Marianne Lazaro. She was escorted by her mother, Violeta Sy, and uncle Jayme Sy. Lazaro also made the orange and fuchsia gowns of the entourage and the groom's Clunese-inspired pina barong.

The Coral and Cycad Gardens in Fernwood were filled by Robert Blancaflor's 1816 Flowers with tulips, roses, irises and liliums in shades of red, orange, yellow, pink, purple and green. The flower shop also made Sy's bouquet of hand-tied burnt-orange calla

Bright orange and fuchsia were also the dominant colors of the cupcake tree filled with apple walnut and carrot walnut cupcakes by Celebration Cakes.

The INCURREN'S Chito Vecina and Ernie Sarmiento, along with Edwin Tuyay, photographed the wedding, while Arkeomedia videotaped the event.

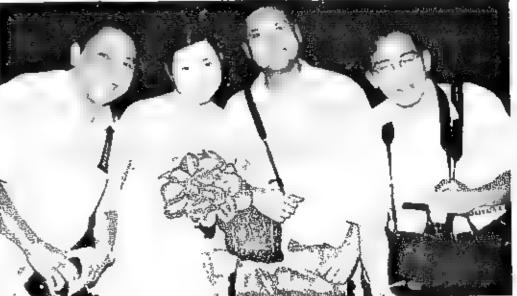
Sentimental Groove provided the entertainment at the ceremony and reception, while Visions and Ideas ably helped coordinate the event.

After the wedding, the couple hied off to El Nido's Lagen Island Resort. They will fly to Europe later on an extended honeymoon trip.



THE BRIDE with cousin Alvin Liu

INQUIRER photographers Ernie Sarmiento and Chito Vecina, and Edwin Tuyay photographed the wedding for their friend.



Sunday LIFESTYLE



WITH THEIR children and grandchildren

ears of bliss One mistake,



GOLDEN COUPLE. Former Cebu Gov. Pablo and Esperanza Garcia

was raining on July 28, 1952. Esperanza, a stunning second-year law student, was waiting in the halls of the University of San Carlos College of Law when a dashing Pablo appeared.

He was a dead ringer for his brother, the late Jesus Garcia Jr., who was then a law professor at the university. "Do we have classes tonight?" the young woman asked.

She mistook Pablo for his brother Realizing her mistake, she immediately turned her back and walked away.

Pablo felt a spark and decided he was not going to let it pass. So, he ran after her. They got married two years later.

Pablo, Pabling to everyone, a bar topnotcher, later became governor of Cebu. The beaunful Esperanza, also known as Inday, became a judge.

Last June, the Garcias celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. President Macapagal-Arroyo and First Gentleman Mike Arroyo were principal sponsors.

The Garcias' son, Winston, president and general manager of the Government Service Insurance System, was best man. Maid of honor was their daughter

Gruomsmen were Nelson, Byron, Marton and Pablo John Garcia, while bridesmands were Yvette, Ma. Linda and Isabel Garcia and Faria Empemano. Junior groomsmen were Christopher



PABLING and Esperanza slice their four-tiered wedding cake.



THE GARCIA siblings—Byron, Farla, Winston, Gwen, Marlon and Pablo—render a surprise song mamber at the reception.

and Jed Garcia, while jumor bridesmaids were Ma. Estella Codilla and Josefa Garcia.

Byron Pablo, Pablo Eufrocino, Pablo John IV, Teresa Esperanza and Esperanza Concepcion Garcia and Ma. Esperanza Christina Codilla were secondary sponsors.

Flower girls were Katrina Margarita and Raiza Anastacia Empemano and Sofia Inez and Gail May Anjelou Garcia, Nelson Nathaniel Garcia was ring bearer, while Pablo Luis was coin bearer.

The concelebrated Mass at the Cebu Metropolitan Cathedral was followed by dinner at the Cebu Grand Convention Center. Among the guests were Sen. Manny Villar, former Ombudsman Aniano Desierto, Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. chair Efraım Genuino, Malacañang chief of staff Rigoberto Tiglao, GSIS board of trustees member Lenny de Jesus, members of Cebu's provincial board, and mayors.

Gold and Filipiniana were the motif that evening. Women wore gold ternos, while the men were in barong. The bride wore an ornate gold piña dress and a gold headdress while the governor was in a traditional barong Taga-

Hours before the wedding, Cebu's archbishop, Ricardo J. Cardinal Vidal, told the couple that Pope John Paul II was giving his papal blessing to the Garcias' renewal of yows.



SEN. Manny Villar proposes a toast to the couple. Joining him are (from left) the couple's son, GSIS president and general manager Winston Garcia, Pagcor chair Efraim Genuino and Malacañang chief of staff Rigoberto Tiglao.



PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo and First Gentleman Miguel Arroyo are the principal sponsors. The Garcias' daughter, Cebu Gov. Gwen Garcia (third from left), stood as maid of honor, while their son, Winston (rightmost), was

The Queen of all Spain

Guadalupe, Spain, on our recent trip to find that there was an early image of Our Lady of before by the monks of St. Jerome. Guadalupe is on the southern slopes of the Altamira hills, branching off from the Viluercas

The sanctuary of Our Lady dates back to the end of the 13th century, during the reign of Alfonso XI, long of Castile and Leon. So the image is much older than the icon in the Basiltoa of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico because Our Lady appeared to Juan Diego in 1531, or the 16th century.

The monks of St. Jerome maintained the monastery for four centuries until 1835, when the sanctuary was converted into a secular parish.

We attended Mass in one of the rooms, celebrated by Fr. Carlito Pono. Afterward, we were met an a lobby by a priest who brought us to a room, then unlocked a small-

IT came as a surprise when we er one where the image was endrove from Fatima, Portugal to throned. We kissed the relic of the Virgin and prayed,

Although the devotion to Our Lady began in the 13th centure Guadalupe in the monastery run she was only canonically crowned in 1928 as queen of all Spanish provinces by the primate Cardinal Don Pedro Segura, special legate to Pope Pius XI, and by King Alfonso XIII. The sanctuary, elevated into a basilica by Pope Pius XII in 1955, was vasited by Pope John Paul II in 1982.

Origin of the image

In Guadalupe, one couldn't help but ask where the image of Mary came from. Some ancient manuscripts, attributed to St. Lucas as author, suggest the image was from the 1st century A.D. It seems when the evangelist died in Acaya (Asia Minor), he was buried with the image.

When the saint's body was moved to Constantinople in the mid-4th century, the image went with him. From there the image was taken to Rome by Cardinal

PURELY **PERSONAL** Josephine Darang

Gregorio, who had been living in Constantinople as legate to Pope Pelagio II (582 A.D.)

In the year 590 A.D., Gregorio Magno was elected Pope. He was so devoted to the image that he exhibited it in his oratory. Mary's protection through the image became evident on one occasion.

Pope Gregorio led a solemn procession to entreat Mary's protection for Rome, then in the grip of an epidemic. As the image was taken through the streets amid the clamor of people, they saw how the playue died.

An angel appeared over a castle (which since then has been called St. Angelo), cleaning blood from a sword, while at the same time a choir of angels sang: "Oueen of

Heaven be glad! Hallelujah!" The tury." (Source: Visitor's Guide to Pontiff movingly replied: "Pray for Guadalupe) us to the Lord! Hallelmah!"

"Gregorio Magno, through his brother Isidoro, sent this image as a present of goodwill to San Leandro, archbishop of Seville. During the journey from Rome to Seville, it calmed a strong sea-storm, arriving safe and sound at the Sevillian river port where it was received by San Leandro and enthroned in the main church, where it was venerated until the beginnings of the Moorish inva-

sion, 711 A.D. "Roward 714 A.D., some dergymen, who were fleeing from the Moonsh peril in Seville, brought with them this image and some saint relics which they hid in the banks of the River Guadalupe, near the southern outskirt of the Altamira hills, not very far from Villuercas. Through this, the cult of this image was lost during five centuries, until providently it reappeared during the reconquest toward the end of the 13th century or beginnings of the 14th cen-

A herdsman's vision

The visitor's guide tells the story of Our Lady's appearance to a poor herdsman, a native of Caceres, who found his cow dead. She told him the cow was going to live. He was to go to the priests and tell them to dig where the cow (who was now alive) died and they would find her image under the stones.

Our Lady said: "And when they dig it up, tell them not to remove it from this place, where it now is, that they should make a little house in which they should put it. The time will come when in this place a church, a notable house and a very big village will be built."

Everything happened as Our Lady said. She was named Our Lady of Guadalupe because Guadalupe meant "hidden river"-the place where her image was found. The herdsman's name was Gil Cordero.

Bicol church needs help

The Parish of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary in barno Balugo, Oas, Albay, will mark its 50th anniversary as a parish Oct. 11-16. Fr. Manuel Balute is asking for help in the repair of the church. He also needs an image of San Lorenzo Ruiz de Manila, which will be installed before October.

Please call Father Manny at 052-2126140 or fax 052-8357384 or write him at the above address. Thank you for your kindness.

500 children in Cagayan

Five hundred children are attending the First National Congress of the Pontifical Missionary Societies at the Lourdes College in Cagayan de Oro City on Sept. 3 to 5, according to Msgt. Gilbert Garcera, national director.

Catholic Travel pilgrimage

Carbolic Travel is making a trip to Paris, Lourdes, Liseux and Medmgorge. Please call Sis Eighta at 6331296 or Kathy at 5232523.



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SUI III
CELLULAR
Everything Important is Under the Sun

LEE Scafford: This hair ductor is a hip doctor.

By Pam Pastor

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Sunday The Beau

Poker for your

You betcha!

Don't be fooled by the pink bottles. These products have the power to zap life back into your tired locks

STRAIGHT hair în under 10 hours

ext us your feedback: name/city/message to (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

You can't deny it. Hair makes a big difference. Just ask Jennifer Aniston, Henri Calayag and the bald man on the bus

And since not everyone is born with gorgeous hair, the rest of us have to work harder to make sure our locks are lustrous.

Lee Stafford, a famous young hardresser from the UK, knows all about that. His new hair care line, which comes in funky hot pink packaging (with tolored barcodes—the first in history), provides the answers to three of the biggest hair problems: how to achieve sleekness, how to make sure your color stays vibrant, and how to zap limp hair back to life.

Stafford, who says he created his own range because he could never find what he's looking for in hair products, takes a very personal approach when it comes to his goods. Each product bears his signature and has a little note from him. "I hope you enjoy this range as much as I did creating it. Have fun with it and look wicked in it."

Creativity is something Stafford doesn't seem to run out of He has two salons in London, has appeared on television (he's a regular on "This Morning"), has written for popular publications (The Independent, Hair Dresser's Journal, GQ, FHM and Maxim) and has won a number of awards (Men's British Hairdresser of the Year, Easter British Hairdresser of the Year, and was a finalist for British Manager of the Year).

This hair doctor has turned fans out of celebrities. Mariah Carey has used his Poker Straight DeHumidifier, Mena Suvari, Rachel Stevens and Brittany Murphy use his Poker Straight Flat Iron Protection Shine Mist, and Dido swears by his entire Poker Straight range.

Thanks to the introduction of his products in Rustan's Essenses just a couple of weeks ago, Pinoy hair will now have a chance to enjoy what these celebrities have been raving about.

Hit with Pinays

Rejoycee G Siy, brand assistant for cosmetics and toiletries at Rustan's, believes that Stafford's Poker Straight range will be a hit with Filipinas—especially those who are obsessed about maintaining ultra-straight, al tra-sieek hair.

As someone who has sat through three excruciating 10-hour hair rebonding sessions, this author certainly welcomes any less painful and less costly alternative.

There are five products under Lee Stafford's Poker Straight line

Poker Straight Shampoo and Conditioner contain Mega Quat, which helps tame kinky hair. Poker Straight DeHumid fier can be your

No. 1 weapon against frizz. This light solution will calm your hair, leaving you in command.

Poker Straight Flat Iron Mist contains green tea extracts that protect your hair from damage caused by excessive use of the flat.

green tea extracts that protect your hair from damage caused by excessive use of the flat iron. Poker Straight Glistening Hair Balm has fast become a favorite. Applying a little of this POKER/17



LEE Stafford'S Poker Straight line can give you sleek locks, minus the pain. PHOTO ROGERCAPPO

Quick hair ti

- Ragularly wash your hair, especially if you often use slyling products
- Use a conditioner to keep your hair per-
- Make sure you thise well after using your shampoo and conditioner; it will stop your hair from tooking dull and liferess
- ha, r from tooking dull and liteless
 If you rinse with cold water you'll get flatter ha, r with less volume

result-oriented adjucate

We are protection offer Murad Professional Spa Services. Professionall-strength Treatments for the race developed อ้าง rangonard dermatologist Howard Murad, M.D.

Environmental Shield ® Vitamin C Infusion Facial

Scientifically-proven, patented infusion technology delivers the most powerful formulation of pure Vitamin C and prevents free radical damage resulting from environmental exposure.

Clarifying Enzyme Facial

Professional strength treatment designed to improve acne-prone skin. Exfoliating natural fruit enzymes, antiseptics, antioxidants and anti-inflammatory ingredients are perfect for exfoliating the skin and softening clogged pores. The result is improvement in skin clarity and reduction in acne blemishes without redness and imitation.

AHA Rapid Exfoliator® Facial

Professional strength treatment designed for all skin types experiencing intrinsic aging. Glycolic acid provides maximum exfoliation to reveal healthier, younger-looking skin.

Equipped with a UV camera, the Murad Spa can detect minute signs of pigmentation and blemish to reverse aging and skin damage at its cartiest stage.

CHARLES AND THE SECOND STREET STREET, STREET STREET



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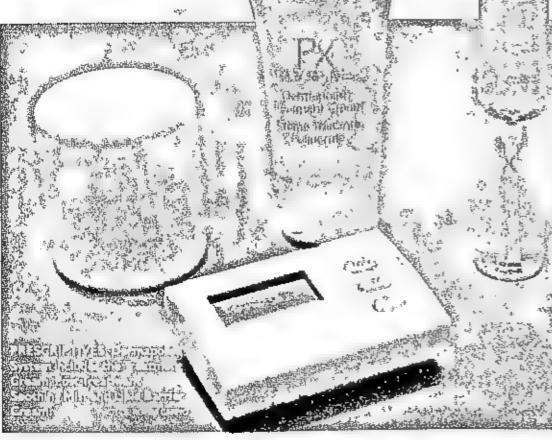
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Rustan's

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DESTREE Go, Prescriptives user

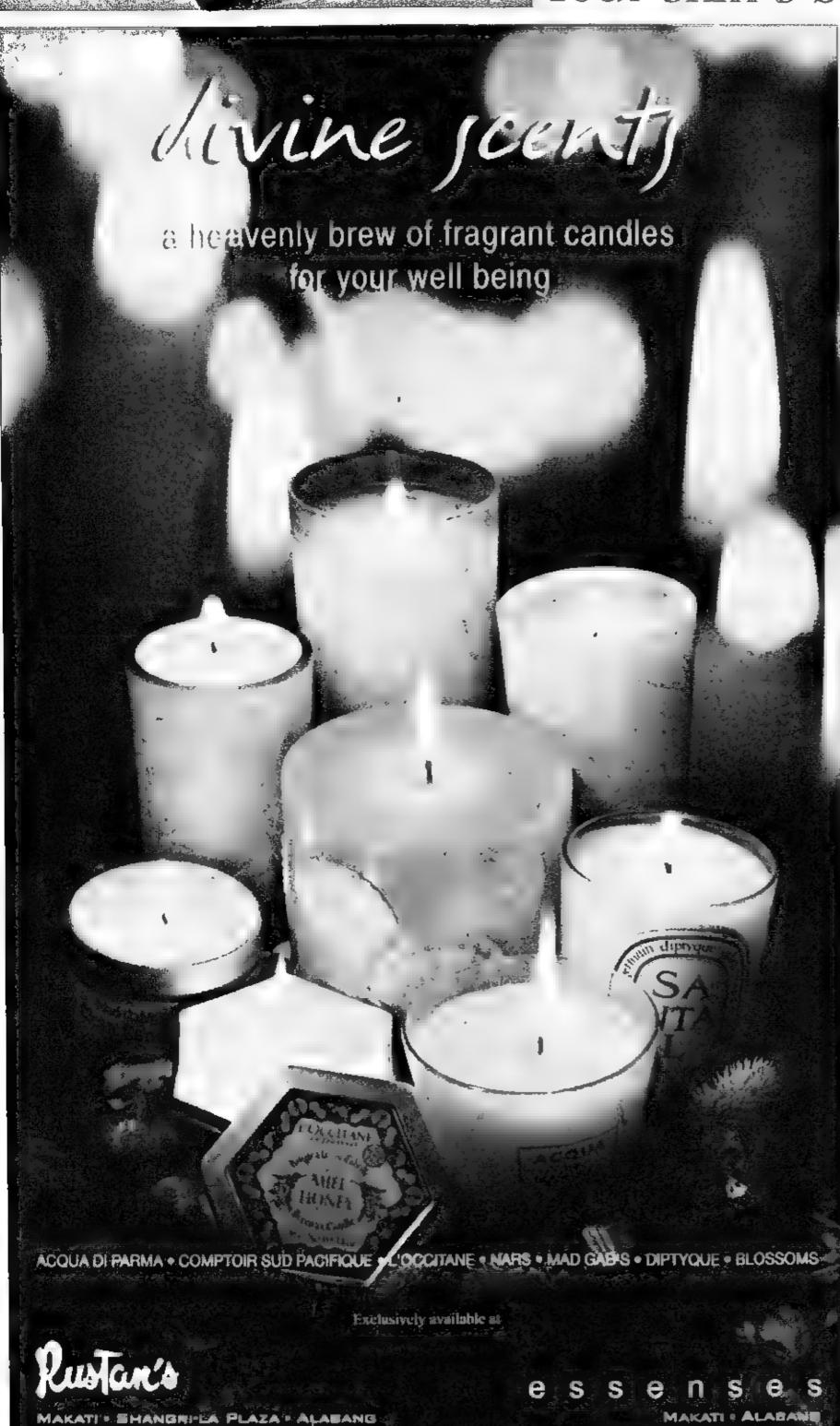


NICOLE Syyap, Dermalogica



LEAH Fabia, La Prairie user

Your skin's best friends



HARRISON FLAZA : CUBAC : CEBU:

rom page 8

La Prairie proffers a luxurious two-pain treatment that polishes and perfects skin on the face and body, diminishing lines and stim, ulating micro circulation.

Celluar Microdermabrasion Cream is an exfoliating treatment that gently removes the dull, aging outer layer of skin not only on the face but also on trouble spots as knees, elbows, heels, where thickened skin and calluses occur. The cream comes with three specialized sponge applicators: the white is for the face, pink for the body; and black for the most rigorous problem areas.

Applying Cellular Softening and Balancing Lotion is the second step. It helps restore an optimum pH balance in the skin, improves suppleness and provides anti-inflammatory benefits.

"These products can be used in conjunction with other treatments, with the exception of other exfoliation products, which should be discontinued one week prior to beginning treatment," says Tricia Bolido, La Prairie brand manager

Bol do adds that microdermabrasion should be performed before taking a bath every other day for a five-day period massaging no longer than one minute on facial skin, two minutes on other areas of the body. Then the skin should rest for five days, before undertaking a once-a-week maintenance program.

Anti-inflammatory

"What's good with La Prairie is its anti-in flammatory lotion, which protects the skin atter microdermabrasion," says Leah Fabia, 42, who owns Philippine Nautical Training Center. She has stopped going to a facial center for exfoliation since she used La Prairie products a month ago.

"I used to have a freckle on the left cheek which I cover with a concealer. La Prairie products have helped even my skin tone and diminish lines. I used to have foot spa twice a month. Now, I don't go to a spa that often to enjoy this relaxing treatment."

Prescriptives' Dermapolish is a three-part system that delivers results comparable to an aesthetician's professional microdermabrasion without the usual redness and artifition—or expense.

Dermaponish Treatment Cream sloughs away surface skin cells to accelerate renewal and uncover new skin. With weekly use, it diminishes the appearance of age spots and sun damage and smoothes away the look of fine lines and wrinkles.

Post Treatment Soothing Mist is an anti-oxidant mist, which cools and hydrates post Dermapolish skin with a complex of Brazilian red algae extracts, green tea and aloe vera

Lipid Barrier Gream is a regenerative moisture formula which restores the skin's protective lipid barrier up to 67 percent

Desiree Go, 28, who works for first Quadrant, started using these products after spending Holy Week in Boracay this year. "My skin darkened that my foundation didn't match my skin tone. Since I've been using the make up line of Prescriptives for four years now, its beauty consultant recommended the microdermabrasion products to rejuvenate my dull skin. After a month, my skin truly improved."

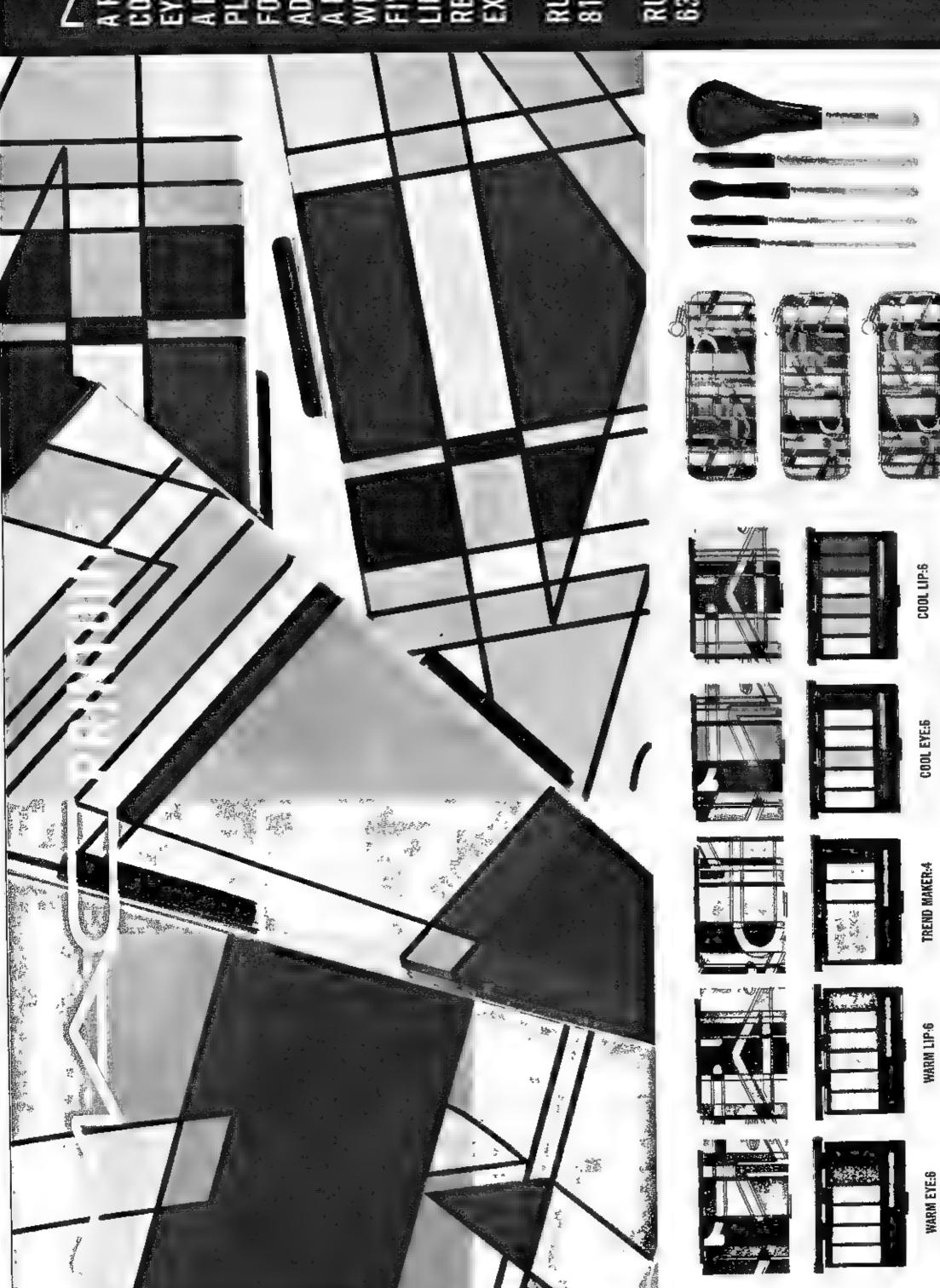
The nucrodermabrasion products of Dermologica, Estée Lauder, La Prairie and Prescriptives are available at Rustan's Essenses.

E-mail the author at rburgos@inquiteccom.ph



TRICIA Bolido, La Prairie and Dior brand inapager, uses La Prairie exfoliation products.

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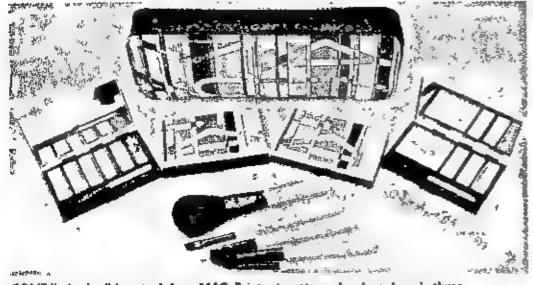


MAKATI . SHANGRI-LA PLAZA

with the latest the second

Everyday Hollywood

MAC's limited-edition palette collection called Printout Parade is a Pucci print-inspired range of coordinating cool or warm-toned eye and lip compacts



SOME limited-edition steals from MAC: Printout-patterned makeup bags in three colors—lime, rose and turquoise with matching five professional mini brushes. My favorite is the lime set. My color palette of choice: Warm Eyes, Cool Lips and Trend Makers for endless possibilities for eyes, cheeks and lips.

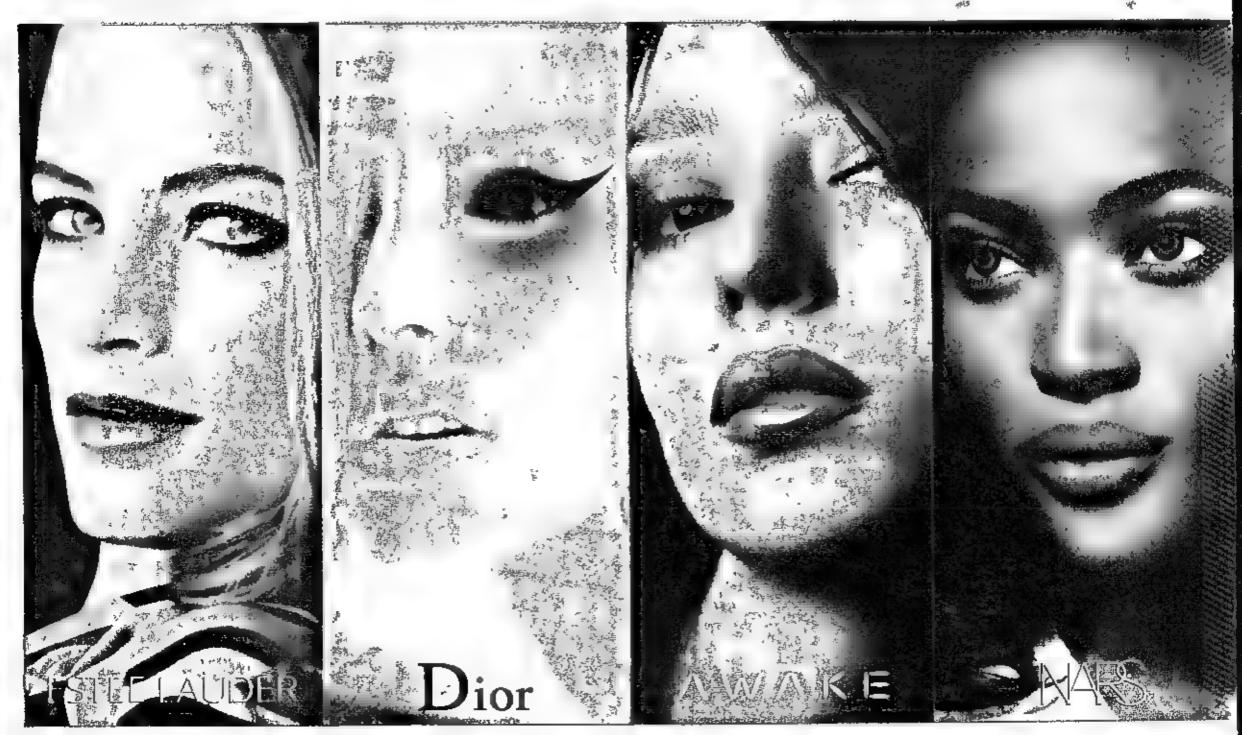


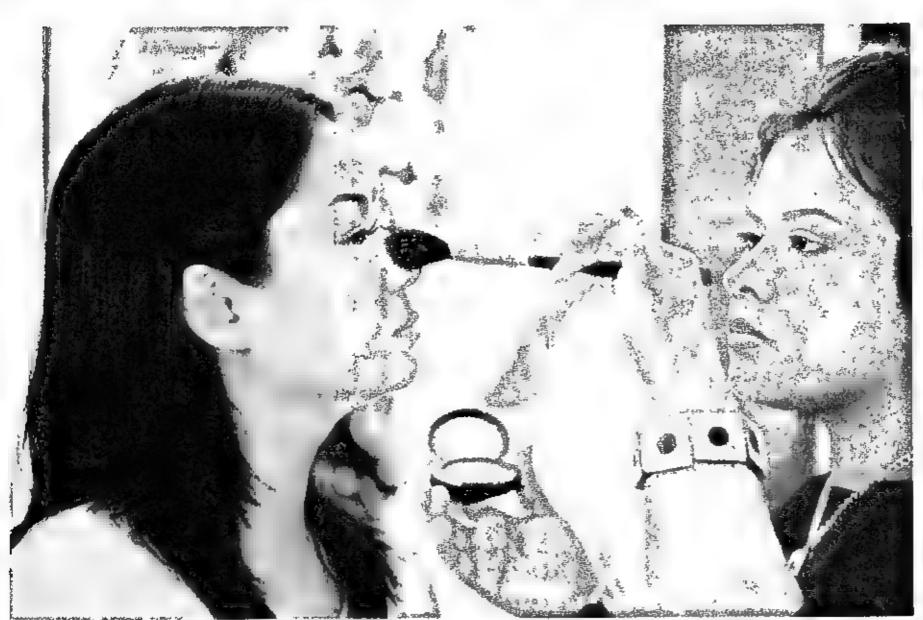
Text by Kinny Salas Photos by Rudy Esperas

AKEUP Artists Cosmetics (MAC) is the nakeup line I know, with products for everyone from socialites to teenagers to ordinary working women. This year, I volunteered to be the

model for their limited-edition palette collection called Printout Parade, a Pucci print-inspired range of coordinating cool or warm-toned eye and lap

The look we agreed upon is all-out . drama and glamour. My MAC make-up artist was Sallie Lim, who was brought to Rustan's Tower from MAC Rustan's Makatı for this session. Sallie s one makeup artist who has never failed to recommend the right products for me.







A peachy beige shade was applied to the apple of my cheeks, with loose powder brushed on to seal the look. My nose was contoured with a light-brown shade at the sides to make it seem narrower, and a thin line of Silverdust right on the middle to give it a more chiseled

Silverdust, a pale pink powder with silver shimmer, was incorporated and applied at the inner corner of my eyes as well.









On my clean, bare face, Sallie applied Strobe cream, MAC's top-selling primer that gives bare skin radiance nd helps foundation adhere better. Studiotech foundation, a cream-to-powder finish, followed suit. It gives bedram-to-heavy coverage to cover minor imperfections and even-out skin tone.

Blemishes that Studiotech can't handle like pimples, broken capillaries and blotchy areas are camouflaged by the Studio Finish concealer, which usually goes under the eyes and inflamed areas like the sides of the

Everything was applied with a foundation brush for an even, professional finish.

Step 2. Eyes

The eyebrows rook the longest to shape and fill in. Salkie used a slant-tipped brush and dark-brown powder

to turn my brows into glamorous arches.

My colors came from the Warm Eyes palette. The lime-green cream shadow was my main accent, and the rest were used to contour and highlight. Black Kohl eyeliner was applied on the upper and lower hid to frame the eyes. A thin line on the upper lid and a thicker one on the undereye area were applied, topped with more lime eye shadow blended right under them to make both eyes pop.

Sallie curied my eyelashes, then put false eyelashes on top of them. I glanced at the mirror and the sight of my eyes alone brought back memories of old Hollywood glamour. Think Hedy Lamarr, Greta Garbo and Jean

Mascara was added to set the curl on the real lashes and add definition per lash.





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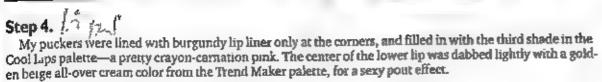
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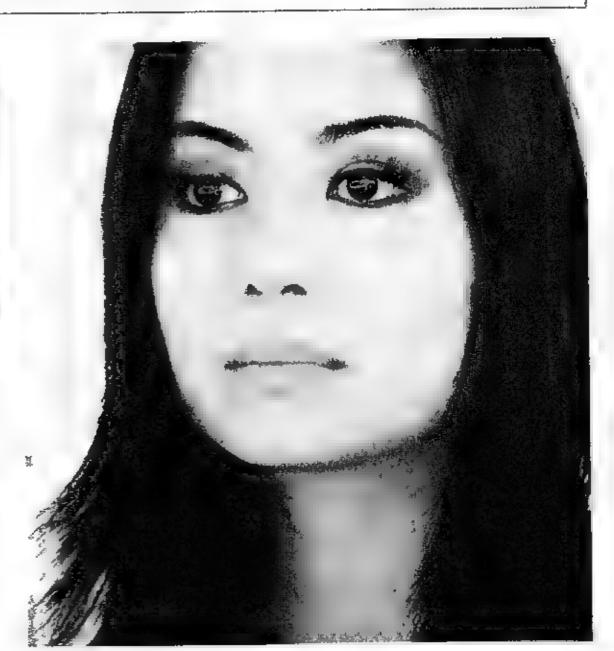
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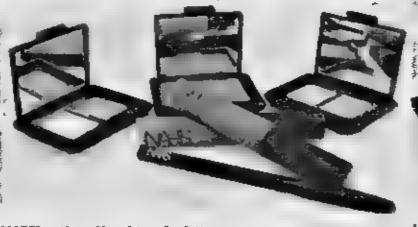


laura mercier











CAT OF STREET STREET

DIOR'S Fall Makeup Collection

NARS' earth- and jewel-toned palette

PHOTOS: NOGER CARNO

LAURA Mercier's Lady Luce Collection—richer colors for autumn

goes serious but enthralling

By Cheche V. Moral Cosmetic brands ditch the sunshiny colors for earth tones and hues

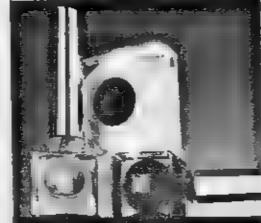
IP bra-lifted" pouts; earth tones with hues of emerald and gamet; soft eyes with richly stained lips; inky peepers with sheer-colored smiles; pale faces with lots of shimmer; lush fabric-mimicking palettes; expressionist faces; sculpted features demure to frivolous eyes-these are the looks to watch out for as top makeup brands debut their looks for fall.

Taking cue from the dropping temperature, cosmetic companies are stowing the sorbet shades of the summer in favor of warmer autumn palettes. Makeup-junkie favorite Nars, expressionist for one, makes a dramatic turnaround as it does away with brights and adopts a more refined look with earthy browns and splashes of olive and purple.

In contrast, Laura Mercier veers from neutrals for darker lip shades. Estée Lauder highlights the eyes and downplays the lips with the barest hint of color.

The Japanese Awake is espousing sexy, pouty lips and provocatively curled eyelashes. French brand Clarins is pushing for a luminous, shimmery face with pink and violet as key hues.





ESTEE Lauder's Pure Color Eyeliner and LipTint, in cute, "inicwell" bottles, and Pure Color Eye Shadow Trio

Dior, meanwhile, creates a face powder that dramatically sculpts and highlights the Asian woman's best features.

Awake

The look: "Sensitively provocative and non-flirtatious sexiness," with focus on the eyes and lips. Created with the working woman in mind, it underscores sensuality with shades that are suited even for the office setting. Lips are sensually full and shiny; eyelashes are coquetushly curled.

Key products: Awake Stardom Lip Lift, the so-called "lip bra," which is a high-shine colla-gen-formulated lipstick that lifts lips into a full, sexy pout. It comes in two varieties, Pure Creamy and Sheer Glossy, with eight shades each (P1,150/mbe). The Stardom Escalare Lash Mascara (P1,650) has superfine bristles that are said to coat each strand in a "domino effect" and lifts the eyelashes into a flirtatious curl without the aid of a curler-best for women with short, straight eyelashes, like the

Nars

The look: Refined and uptown-sophisticated, with a subtle, earthy palette. Rich brown is spiced up with the addition of jewel tones like garnet and emerald. It's ecru, emerald and aubergine for the eyes, and spiced neutrais for the lips.

Key products: The Earth Angel Duo Eye

Shadow (P1,750), a bronzed taupe and olive combo; the Barbuda Single Eye Shadow (P1,150), an amethyst shade; the nutmeg-hued Pampa Lip Stain Gloss and the metallic garnet Duty Shame Lip Gloss (P1,350

Incidentally, Nars will hold a sale of its spring collection on Sept. 10-12 at the Rustan's Makati Boardroom. Items will be sold at 15-percent off, with a special gift for every P1,950 purchase.

Laura Mercier

The look: The brand that has been known for its neutral palette goes bold as it highlights the lips in darker and richer shades, and shifts attention from the eyes with softer and sheerer hues. Fall's Lady Laxe Collection takes inspiration from lush fabrics like cashmere and chiffon.

Key products: Black Ebony eyeliner on the lash line for depth, Blue Suede Eye Colour across the lids and Cashmere on the brow bone. Sable is brushed underneath for intensity, highlighted with Pearl and finished off with a sweep of black mascara. The lips call for Plum Berry Long Wear Lip Pencil and Garnet Lip Colour, Riviera Crème Cheek Color lends a hint of blush.

Estée Lauder

The look: Inspired by the Expressionist movement, colors are intensified to emphasize expression and emotion. It gives prominence to the eyes with the strong, inky shades of ebony, mahogany, indigo. The cheeks are lightly stained. Ditto with the lips in sheer watercolor hues.

Key products: The limited-edition Pure Color Eyeliner and LipTint, packaged like fountain-pen inkwells, with ultra-thin easy-touse applicators. The eyeliner comes in five shades, at P1,380 each. The lip tint, in four shades, is P980 each. The Pure Color Eye Shadow Tros comes in three shades, at P1,600 each.

The look: "Sculpted" complexion with naturally shimmery or intensely indescent made-

Key products: Diorskin Perfect-Fit Compact the makeup with its gold reflects.

FULL lips and shadow-casting eyelashes, with Awake Stardom Lip Lift (right) and Stardom Escalate Lash Mascara (left)

(P2,220), which is specifically designed for Asians. In eight shades, it has a lightreflecting complex that "sculpts" the Asian complexion. It is said to capture and re-diffuse light to highlight the contours of the face. The red pigments of the powder deepens and structures; the . blues even its relief; and the yellows brighten complexion. It has SPF 20. The

2 Couleurs Shadow and Light Duo Ready to Wear Wet & Dry (P1,500; in eight color combos) is two-color eye makeup (one modulates, the other magnifies) that lends a natural look when applied dry. With just a drop of water, the effect deepens into more dramatic

Clarins

The look: Called True Emotions, the look is decidedly pale, with lots of sparkly shimmer. The key hues are pink and violet.

Key products: The face is kept pale with just a nint of snummer with the ap plication of True Radiance Foundation. The lipstick, Le Rouge Sheer Lipstick, in

two shades, has an almost transparent color with an equally shimmery finish. The other variant is called Le Rouge Pearl Shimmer Lipstick and comes in four shades.

For the eyes, there's the Colour Quartet for Eyes 02, a combination of three pink shades and gold. Its nail colors, in pale pinks, mimic

de those and sensations

Flutter those lashes and beam your fairest as Rustan's Essenses launches new treats from Estée Lauder, Sekkisei and Calypso

CLARINS' True

Emotions collection



By Cheche V. Moral

EAUTY junkies out there, pucker your lippies, flutter those lashes and beam your fairest as Rustan's Essenses launches new products this season to add to your already colorful booty.

Estée Lauder hopes to solve another of women's many makeup dilemmas with the introduction of its Mikado line. Named after the Japanese makeup artist

who developed the products, associate brand manager Gladys Gonzales says the innovative twoin-one artist pencils will do away with mismatched lip liners and lipsticks, and eyeliners and eye shadows.

The nifty Arnst's Mechanical Lip Pennils and Artist's Mechanical Eye Pencils are double-ended and color-coordinated sticks you can easily slip into your bags, so say bye-bye to bulky kikay bags on your way

The former is a lip liner on one end with a matching lip color on the opposite end, and comes in eight shades. The latter, which comes in six waterproof

shades, is an eyeliner and a cream-formula eye shadow duo. The ergonomically designed sticks are retractable, and priced at P1,350 each.

Rounding up the Mikado line is the Artist's Perfect Brows, a combo of self-sharpening, ultra-thin brow filler and brow brush. It comes in three shades, and costs

Sensual Sekkisei

Japanese all-botanicals brand Sekkisei introduces the sibling of its popular black soap, the Seikisho Cleansing Oil (P945/185

While many may feel icky cleansing their face with oil, brand manager Rieko Ishizawa claims the gel-like oil cleanser is actually as effective as other forms, and it rinses easily. It is said to be gentle for all skin types, and leaves a film of moisture on

You see, even oily skin needs to be moisturized," she explains.

Seikisho Cleansing Oil combines Japanese and Chinese herbal oils and botanicals that are said to be effective in removing the rough layer that contains melanin, heavy makeup and



whitening line - S.R. White Serum, Advanced Lotion and Advanced Cream

blackheads.

It has Job's Tears Seed Oil, for a translucent complexion; Peach Seed Oil to minimize appearance of pores; Safflower Oil to clear clogged pores; and Oil-soluble Licorice that lightens duliness and pigmentation.

Skin renovation series

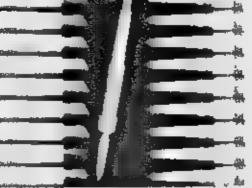
Awake, the same company that makes Sekkisei, has added three new premium products to its skin whitening line, the Platmum Care Skin Renovation Series. The Awake approach is to combat the effects of both internal and external factors that contribute to skin pigmentation,

dulling and premature aging. White Serum aims to alter the effects of internal stress caused by

emotional problems. You have to understand that stress contributes to melanin production, which causes skin discolorations," she says. The serum contains annoxidants and extracts that activate production of new cells and remove existing melanın. A Vitamın C-rich ingredient called acerola extract is said to lighten melanin.

The S.R. White Advanced Lotion is the line's moisturizer, responsible for enhancing the skin's ability to absorb and retain moisture. Applied after the serum, the lotion also has extracts that are said to control melanin.

Complementing the two is the S.R. White Advanced Cream. Used at night, it's a medicated whitener for serious melanin problems caused by external factors like pollution and sun expo-



ESTEE Lauder Mikado Artist's Mechanical Lip Pencils

Awake's Platinum Care is the brand's most expensive bne, according to Ishizawa. The serum is P4,750/40 g; the lotion Ishizawa explains the S.R. P3,950/120 ml; and the cream P5,550/30 g. Intended for women age 30 and over, it's reputedly the most effective, and created by what Ishizawa calls the No. 1 whitening brand in Asia.

Fragrance booty

From the apparel brand Calypso comes a fragrance line with matching soaps and candles. First introduced in 1995, Calypso by Christiane Celle's delicate signature scent is mimosa-based, owing to the roots of the brand's progenitor, Christiane Celle was raised in Cannes, France, where there's an abundance of mimosa.

Now in nine variants, the fragrance line aims to translate the playfulness of beach life (a paean to Celle's childhood in the French Riviera and holidays in St. Barth's) to the chic, cosmopolitan lifestyle (a nod to Celle's current homes in New York City and the Hamptons).

Vacation in

By Pam Pastor

NE whiff takes you places. To faraway islands with swaying coconut trees, to seashores with tiny fish swimming in the clear water, to resorts where you can down one umbrellaadorned drink after another, to the exotic destinations of your wildest

The brilliant minds behind Comptoir Sud Pacifique have mastered the art of creating magic for your olfactory nerves. No wonder high-profile women like Nicole Kidman, Juliette Binoche and Britney Spears have fallen in love with their scents.

Eaux De Voyage, their new perfume line, plays with the concept of year-round holidays, exoticism, sunshine and escape.

There are a total of nine different fragrances under six olfactory families-Vanilla Island ("vanilla enhanced with fruity, floral and amber scents-a warm invitation to tenderness and pleasure"), Equatorial Forest ("the successful combination of power and delicacy"), Tropical Garden ("an armful of delicate flowers with warm overtones"), Exotic Orchard ("when prayful wild fruit awaken anusual scents"), The Way of Spices ("the suave and languorous harmony of spices and oriental scents") and Sun Waters ("vivifying maritime or citrus overtones elate the senses").

Each scent is a seduction, an adventure, an experience.

There are two fragrances under Vanilla Island Vanille Passion is sensual and warm. Vanille Abricot is sweet and velvety.

Bois De Filao, which falls under Equatorial Forest, combines the scents of patchouly, filao wood, amber and white musk with the smells of lemon, bergamot, papyrus, baie rose and violette .eaf

Aloha Tiare, from the Tropical Garden family, is floral, exotic and intoxicating. Coeur De Value brings together the delightful scents of sandalwood and vanilla with bergamot, orange, peach, passion fruit, cinnamon, rosejasmine and opuhi flower from Tahiti.

Exotic Orchard's Mora Bella is light, floral and fruity. It is a union of pomegranate, bergamot, lemon, raspberry, blackberry, jasmine, sandalwood and musk.

Amour De Cacao, which is from The Way of Spices, is rich and delicious. The mixture of cacao and varulla produces a yummy choco ate

From page II

3"

balm on wet hair before blow-drying can give you more control over your tresses.

If straight hair isn't your thing, the rest of Stafford's range has other benefits to offer

As the name suggests, his Colour Love line is for people with colored hair. Colour Love Shampoo and Conditioner make sure your hair stays in tip-top shape despite the salon treatments you like indulging in People with dry and damaged hair may also use these products for vibrancy.

Double Blow, Stafford's flexible mousse, is dual-purpose. Use it once for moderate volume. If you want crazy, big hair, use it twice. The bonus? It doesn't get sticky or hard.

Full On is the line for people who need volame The Shampoo and Leave-In Conditioner can help limp hair achieve fullness and bounce.

All messed up

If you like tousled, unkempt, I-tumbledout of bed looking-like-this hair, Messed Up is your ...ne. You've got two options-Messed Up Spray Wax, which allows you to style your hair and leaves it glossy, and Messed Up Putty For A Choppy Number, which you rub in your hands before massaging into your hair.

Shine Head is for people who want more slick and shine. And there are two ways to go about it. Shine Head Spray Shine and Shine Head Jelly To Give Shiny Hair can help you produce a wet look or transform yourself into a beach babe

Ho.d Tight is a firm hold spray that keeps your hairdo in place without making it as stiff as a board.

Believe it or not, there's also clay for your han. As Rough As You Like is a clay-based product that would give you complete control over your hair, no matter what length. Working this product vigorously through your hair will give it texture and definition.

Because no two people have the exact same haircare needs, this range gives you the freedom to choose which of these products work the best for you, so you can use them together.

At P345 to P395 per product, there's no doubt that a lot of people would indulge in experimenting with their hair, It doesn't hurt that the products smell really good, too

And since most of us can only dream of having Stafford's hands working on our hair, his new range is the next best thing.

Lee Stafford Haircare products are available 'exclusively at Rustan's Essenses Makatı.

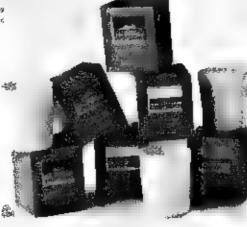
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There are two scents under Sun Waters---Aqua Motu and O Pomelo. Aqua Motu is as light as a breeze and carries your senses to the ocean. Thanks to the combination of pomero, grapefruit and white musk, O Pomelo bursts with a juicy fruity scent that can last the whole day.

These scents, which come in 100-ml and 150-ml bottles, only became available at Essenses in late August.

As if the fragrances aren't enough to make your olfactory nerves happy, Compton Sud Pacifique also offers beautiful candles in different scents to keep your interiors smelling good.

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answer lies in these bottles and candles. Vanille Passion, Vanille Abricot, Bois De Fi-

lao, Aloha Tiare, Coeur De Vahne, Mora Bella, Amour De Cacao, Aqua Moru and O Pomelo. Those are the scents of escape.

Comptoir Sud Pacifique is available exclusively at Rustan's Essenses Makatt



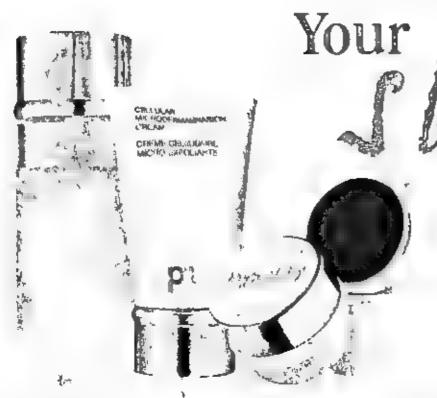




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Sunday LIFESTYLE



LA Prairie's Cellular Microdermabrasion Cream and Cellular Softening and Balancing Lotion come with three specialized sponge applicators.

best friends

Aging and stress can be checked through skincare science

By Rowena C. Burgos

■ HEY say age brings wisdom, and that's okay. But it also brings about telltale signs of aging on the face. Happily, skin-care companies such as Dermalogica, Estée Lauder, La Praine and Prescriptives have lined up an assortment of products that restore the skin's texture, reduce lines and



ESTEE Lauder's Idealist Micro-D (top left) and Idealist Skin Refinisher

even prevent the onslaught of new ones. They have tapped into the growing home microdermabrasion trend. And they are targeting consumers who want the benefits of doctor-administered dermabrasion minus the time spent in the dermatologist's clinic.

Microdermabrasion is a treatment where dead skin cells are removed with tiny silicon or aluminum-oxide crystals blown against the skin, then sucked up with a small vacuum With the new at-home exfoliation alternatives by skincare brands, one will get similar results (smoother, more even-toned skin) within about four weeks.

Nicole Syyap, 22, Dermalogica brand assistant, has been using the brand's Daily Microfoliant, Skin Prep Scrub, Gentle Cream Exfohant and Skin Renewal Booster for three months now. These, she says, have he ped her achieve glowing and supple skin. "These products are very gentle that one can use them daily. Before, I really had bad skin. But when I started using Dermalogica, it has done wonders for me. I bring them wherever I go."

Daily Microfoliant is a rice-based enzyme powder which microfoliates dulling debris. Its skin-brightening complex balances uneven skin pigmentation while the active agents from rice bran and nee extracts help regulate melanin production and microfoliate dead cells.

Skin Prep Scrub's natural corn cob meal and soothing botanicals polish away dead skin cells without overstimulating the skin

Gentle Cream Exforant is a multi-part complex of lactic acid, salicylic acid, sulfur and fruit enzymes, which detach dead skin debris and promote cell renewal.

Skin Renewal Booster is a blend of hydroxy acids and natural humectants for increased cel, renewal and healthter-looking skin

Award-winning

On the other hand, Estée Lauder's awardwinning Idealist Micro-D and Idealist Skin Refinisher deliver skin resurfacing benefits with their TripleSphere Refinishing System. The brands also offer deep, thermal action that warms skip to help open, detoxify and minimize pores.

"In an instant, you'll feel it's kinda warm It's what we call deep thermal action. It wakes up lazy cells to hasten sun peeling and renewal," says Gladys Gonzales Estée Lauder and Prescriptives assistant brand manager. "The products' non-acid formula takes care of skin's problems like pores, flakiness, redness and fine lines. They don't clash with other products that you use and even complement your existing skincare regimen "

YOUR SKIN'S/Z



DERMALOGICA'S Daily Microfoliant

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PSYCHOLOGY GRADUATES who:

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Contact persons:

Dess or Christabel Unit 905 Prestige Tower,

Emera d Avenue Ortigas Center, Pasig City

636-6327 to 29

finished at the upper 10% of his or her batch

is proficient in both oral and written English

We are in need of the following:

SALES MANAGERS

- At least 2 years experience as Sales Manager in ree, estate or related fields Must have soid properties worth P1 5-3.0 million Musi possess excellent teadership and
- management skills Must be results oriented and able to formulate and execute marketing strategies

PROPERTY CONSULTANTS Must have excellent communication and

- interpersonal skills With sound business sense and passion for
- Cottege degree education with good scholastic
- Self-motivated and highly competitive with a surong desire to excel
- Experience in Real Estate sales is an edvartage

ACOUNTING ASSISTANT

- Female, between 23 to 28 years old Must be a graduate of BS Accountancy With a least 2 years relevant experience Self driven and can work with minimum
- Well-organized and conscientious with details Excellent oral and written communication

should be computer literate

should have good interpersonal skills

ACCOUNTANT

- Male or Female, between 23 to 35 years old Must be a graduate of BS Accountancy from a
- reputable school, preferably CPA
- With at least 3 years relevant experience in bookkeeping and (mandal reports preparation
- from a reat estate company Self-driven and can work with minimum
- Well-prograzed and conscientious with details With excellent oral and written communication
- Knowledgeable with reportorial requirements of BIR. SEC, SSS. HDMF and other local govi.

SALES ADMIN AND DOCUMENTATION OFFICER

- Between 24-30 years old, Female Business course graduata with at least 2 years experience in documentation work and background from a real estate development firm
- Well-organized and conscientious with regards to details Customer-oriented and with strong
- interpersonal stulk With excellent oral and writen communication skills

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JOB OPENINGS

Marketing Services Manager

- Management or marketing course graduate
- With at least 5 years experience in advertising, promotions and market research
- MBA and experience in real estate an advantage

Project Development Officer

- Management graduate with strong background in marketing & finance
- With at least 2 years experience in project or brand management
- MBA and experience in real estate, an advantage

Project Architect

- BS Architecture graduate
- Licensed Architect
- With at least 5 years experience in project design and technical planning

Project Engineer

- BS Civil Engineering graduate
- Licensed Civil Engineer
 - With a minimum of 5 years experience in project and construction management

Interested applicants may submit their resume and transcript of records at the 3/F Tower One Ayaia Triangle, Ayala Avenue, Makati City or e-mail to: tandoctrance.cir@avaialand.com.ph

NOTICE OF JOB VACANCY

Vecancy No. 2004-11 Date Issued: 2 Sep. 2004 Closing date: 8 Sep. 2004

Post Title Entry Level Office and Location Telecommunication Associate - We Field Security Countination Office Office of the UN Field Security Coordination Office JNOP Philippines Manife

Fixed Term Type of Appointment Duration One Year Appointment

Dutles and Responsibilities:

The Telecommunication Associate(TA) works under the supervision of the UN Field Security Coordination Officer (FSCO) or, in his absence, the UN Field Security Coordination Assistant (FSCA) for the Philippines.

She/he will be responsible for the Maintenance the UN-later agency ECS including

- Planning and technical maintenances of the UN inter agency Radio Room Planning of VMF repeater/HF entennes and technical maintenance of these installations;
- Technical checks and quick repairs of radios, repeaters, backup power systems, antennas, and other radio support equipments.
- Technical Supervision of inter agency contractors for radio-telecommunications
- Veiting and training of UN Radio Operators both inter agency and agency Radio training of UN-staff and UN-drivers
- Radio Propagation test for the luture coverage expansion of the existing LiN- ECS network.

The TA edvises the UN agencies/funds/programs on telecommunications related matters including Recommendations on inter-agency radio-telecom equipment purchases (UMF/HF/HF/SateSite

- phone) and software according to MOSS
- Recommendations on radio procedures and policies Procurement of radio telecom hard-and software and other equipment Contracting of services related to radio-communications

Liaising with government authorities in lelecom-lasues including

- Licensing of Radio stations including the preparation of related documents Licensing of frequencies including the preparation of related documents
- Enhancement of the UN ECS

Qualification:

- University Degree in telecommunications of related field with at teast 5 years progressive experience or al least 10 years experience in the field of radio-communications (VHF, HF)
- At least five years experience in redio-telecommunications project management, including HF and VHF communications. Good knowledge of Motorcia VHF and CODAN HF radio-telecom hard and sollware.
- Expedence with the UN or another international organization is a strong asset;
- Radio Operator's Licence according to the Revised Amateur Radio Regulation (Ministry Circular No. 87174), Police and NBI clearance,
- Full working knowledge of English language;
- Advanced computer skills (MS Office),
 Ability and willingness to trave) within the entire nati. territory of the Philippines and to work overtime and weekends in case of emergency
- initiative and sound judgement. Ability to supervise contractors' works and to work independently: Dedication to the United Nations principles and demonstrated ability to work in harmony with persons of different national and cultural background; Personal commitment to peace and reconculation:

The assignment may include field work for emergency interventions under harsh conditions, high physical stress or personal danger! The United Nations Organization strongly encourages applications from qualified female candidates. The UN-offices in the Philippines are a non-smoking

The selected candidate will receive a salary depending on his/her background and work

Applicants are requested to complete the UN Personal History Form(P.11), available in our website no.org.ph/jobs and send to.

Human Resources Unit United Nationa Development Programma 7th Floor NEDA as Maxeti B dg 106 Amoraolo St., Legespi Viviege Makati City

Indicating the Vacancy No. and Post Title on or bafore <u>8 September 2004</u>. Kindly note that only completed P.11 forms will be reviewed.

UNOP is an equal opportunity employer and invites Filipmo nationals to apply for the post.

Please note that we will contact only the short-listed candidates.



Australian Government AusAID

The Australian Agency for international Development (AusAfD) is responsible for the delivery of Australia's Development Cooperation Program to the Philippines. AusAfD is now seeking the services of a Fil pino officer to fill the position of:

SENIOR PROGRAM OFFICER - DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

- Applicants should provide a two to three-page written application addressing the following key selection criteria:

 Well developed understanding of development issues and in-depth knowledge of key national and
 - Knowledge of AssAiD or other bilisteral Development Cooperation Programs (as advantage)
 - Demonstrated contract management skills Effective work planning, organizing and resource management sidils Developed people and team sidils

 - Demonstrated communication, negotiation and representational shills

A capacity to deal with Australian contractors and/or local consultants is ensemble. A willingness to travel throughout the Philippines, including Mindanao, is also required.

Cooperation Program

- Specifically, applicants should have:

 [2] Two (2) to live (5) years of experience in program/project development and management
 - Relevant terilary qualifications
 Experience in working as part of a multi-cultural organisation
 - Experience in dealing with donors, the povernment, NGOs and other related institutions. Working knowledge of Microsoft office software applications
 - Ability to work in a team environment.

The euccessivi applicant will contribute to the efficient and effective delivery of the development cooperation program through day-to-day management of ongoing activities and contracts, activity monitoring and reporting quality policy input, and administrative support writtens multi-functional cross cultural team. The key responsibility

- Manage a range of development-oriented complex activities (programs, projects and facilities) mainly in the areas of rural development, health or education.

 Contribute to the development, formulation and review of policies, programs and activities within Philippine
- Country Program Strategy themsile areas.
 Contribute to effective utilization of human, Spancini, material and other mecuroes in accordance
- with relevant policies and procedures.

 Contribute to the establishment and strengthening of effective relationships with development cooperation.
- partners and suscended:a Support to the effective and efficient implementation of corporate programs and priorities matter of the Develorment Provide appropriate administrative, logistic and technical support for the implement
- The successful applicant will be expected to commence at the earliest possible time. The commencing salary is regoliable depending upon quelifications and experience. The position is everlable on a reservable of two (2) year

Kindly forward your written application (2-3 pages), returns (maximum of 4 pages), and two (2) work-related referral ratters (preferrably addressing the above selection criteria) to the following address by COS Friday, 17

September 2004 Do not send copies of scademic transcripts, awards, degrees, or published papers. THE COUNSELLOR (DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION)

Davelopment Cooperation Section - Australian Embases PO Box 1071 Maketi Central Post Office, Makell City, 1200

Envelopes should be dearly marked "SENIOR PROGRAM OFFICER (AUSAIO" Only those selected for interview will have their applications acknowledged.

AusAID is an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) employer and resintains a smalte-free working environment.

Our company is looking for

- Front-Desk Customer Service Personnel (college degree, 2 yrs. Hotel work experience)
- Sales Assistants (college degree, 2 yrs, corporate work experience)
- Senior & Junior Fitness Trainers (finished course work in Anatomy & Physiology, I yr. work experience in the fitness industry)
- Restaurant and Lounge Crew (1 yr. work expenence)

your resumé dive94@yahoo.com on or before 6 Sept., Mon., 3 pm. Be sure to include your contact numbers. You may reach us at 410-7926.

NEW GARMENT COMPANY IS IN NEED OF:

One (1) PATTERN MAKER

- graduate of any related course
- must be knowledgoable in drafting pattern
- including pattern grading knowledgeable in sewing operations
- knowledgeable in operating Lectre pattern making machine
- has excellent knowledge in labric ehrinkege has good communication skill and is hardworking
- minimum 5 years experience in a germent from
- between 30-35 years of age
- PLEASE BEND RESUMÉ WITH RECENT PHOTO TO: MIX 148

c/o Philippine Detly Inquirer Q/F, Atrium Bidg., Materil Avenue, Mekati City

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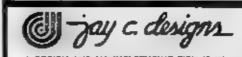
IS LOOKING FOR QUALIFIED APPLICANTS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

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- ACCOUNTANTS
- ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF
- ADMIN. & FINANCE OFFICER

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MUST BRING THEIR RESUME TO 2176 PRIMO RIVERA ST., LA PAZ, MAKATI CITY.

CALL 896-4941 FOR MORE INFO.

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ate: 21 years above: Accounting Gladuate: With background in bookeeping. Able to produce and analyse Income Statement: Knowledgeable in consolidation of cécounting reports. Preferably with adéquating experience in a manufacturing industry.

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Mate of Fernate: 21 years above, Cottege Graduale Rnowledgedtale in Consideray 13 & Photoshop 7

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Mole or Fernale: 21 years above. Expedence in Sales is an advantage. Good Strong and charming voice. Fluent in English and Filipina: Good communication skills. Computer rate. Organizad: Diligani and Sell-Driven, Maluse and Knows how to date and willing to do field with

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JAY C DESIGNS, INC. 142 Road 3, Pagasa, C.C. Tel. No. 927-1776 5/F. Bidg. A, SM Megamell Tel. No. 635-6298 LGF SIA City North EDSA Tel. No. 453-4364

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- **Accounting Assistant** Female College Graduate of Accountancy or
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- Related Course to 2 yrs work experience as Data Encoder or
- IT Staff, with expertise in Microsoft Excel Production Line Worker
- College Graduate or at teast 2 years college of
- Preferably with expension as production the
- Receptionist
- College Graduate or at least 2 years college Female, at least 52" tall
- With pleasing personality and good numcation skills
- Apply personally at the Recruitment Office: Sentro Kapitolyo Bidg 59 West Capitol Drive. Barrio Kapitolyo, Pasig City, Tel. 747-2222 Mondays to Fridays

Bring 2 sets of bio-data with picture

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MRD Specialist

- FEMALE and work time 2h year old
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Sales & Marketing Officer

- Not more then 30 years old. MF
- Business Depree holder with impressive academic
- Set-crass, pleasant and bushing with anti-uses in Superproduction cases sets both sectal & writing strong background in sales & marketing is highered.
- Motorized Messenger
- Atale not more train 30 years old
- Physically lit, with good and communication skills Horansi, calebra and Got learning Wen veid Driver's Laperse gree 1, 2, 3)
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 pomouter literate Call 921-6921 - 926-9844 - 929-1872 Look for Linda, Carlos



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- Single, Male / Female; not more than 30 yrs. old

Graduate of BS Nursing (licensed / unificensed)

- With good communication and interpersonal skills
- Flexible in time schedule and dedicated to work
- Computer literate

welcome to apply

records, with 2x2 picture at:

With pleasing personality

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST

- Graduate of BS Radiologic Technology; must be licensed
- Single, Male / Female; not more than 30 yrs. old
- With at least 1 yr. experience in clinic operations

 Computer literate Note: Graduates of other medical related course are also



Interested parties may submit their resumé, transcript of

7th/F Feliza Bidg. V.A. Rulino St., Lagaspi Village, Makati City Tel. No 894-33-86

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

ACQUISITION SPECIALIST A foreign assistance organization has an immediate need for an ACQUISITION SPECIALIST who will be responsible for the proper administration, timely completion, and prompt close-out of acquisition and assistance instruments managed by its different project offices. The successful candidate will be providing

recommendations and / or alternatives as to the kind of acquisition or award for proposed activities of the project offices depending on the intent and level of control. He/She will have to ensure that the scopes of work for proposed activities are contractible and have complete documentation (scopes of work, budgets, waivers of competition or source and/or origin, if required) for acquisition / assistance purposes. The incumbent will be preparing solicitation documents ensuring that these are advertised where applicable. He/ She will be required to participate in technical evaluation meetings as representative of the Contracting Officer where he/she will provide guidance on acquisition / contracting regulations and will ensure compliance with procurement integrity rules. The incumbent is also responsible for doing cost/price analyses to determine if costs in budgets are fair reasonable, and realistic. He/She is also responsible for negotiations with the organizations on costs/prices, terms, etc. until submission of final/best offer. Minimum educational requirement is completion of a Bachelor's degree in fields like in accounting, fluence, business or pre-law. Completion of post graduate study is desirable. At least four (4) years of progressively responsible experience in acquisition, contracting, and assistance gained from an international or donor organizations highly preferred. Candidates with good knowledge of U.S. Pederal acquisition and assistance regulations and procedures highly desirable. Good knowledge of international an knowledge of local market pricing customs and practices are required. An excellent command of English [both written and oral]

and good computer skills are essential. Competitive salary (including mid-year and year-end bonuses). health and life insurance, and a retirement plan are offered.

Application letter with 2x2 photo and comprehensive resumé musi be

received no later than September 10, 2004. Human Resources Division P.O. Box EA 423

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Products, and SASSA active wears, has the following position open:

MARKETING MANAGER Male or Female, not over 40 years old Gracture of a 4-year business course, Master's Degree or units a plus Must have excellent interpersonal and communication statis Must have exposure to consumer marketing preferably to the relatisector. With good (ashion earts)

When the drive to work in an entrepreneutial environmen Job Responsibilities:

to travel to outlets in the greater NCH area and occassionally to regional areas

To steer the company towards a solid isadership position in the industry through proactive marketing strategies and indistives Provide management with limely, accurate and comprehensive analysis of the company's

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Expand distribution areas, improve sales performances in current distribution after

KRA's include recommendation and establishment of affective marketing policies. Identification of the needs of the market through the conduct of regular researches, preparation and implementation of the actual sales performance and conceptualization of regular programs and activities aimed at altenginening the marketing and knage of the company transacted parties are invited to submit their application latter and resume with a color photo,

references, and contact tall no, by mail or lax addresses for The General Menager NEW BARBIZON FASHION, INC. #401 VFP Bldg. 2, Veterana Road, Veterana Center, Tegulo

IMAC

Fax 02-8370393 mena lisa Barbizon



IMMEDIATE HIRING

- HUMAN RESOURCE ASSISTANT Female at least 23-27 yrs, Old / Single with pleasing
- personality. Able to administer Psychometric Test.

skills. Background in Compensation and Benefits is an Advantage.

Knowledgeable in all aspect of Recruitment Process.

Has good oral / written communication and presentation

Interested applicants may send their resume with recent photo via e-mail. JIMAC, INCORPORATED HR DEPARTMENT Penthouse floor TC Plaza Building near cor. Cordillera St. Quezon Ave., Quezon City Tel No. 742-6832, 742-6840 loc. 117 e-mail address: hrd@jijpac-inc.com

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ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

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- Graduate of Mass Communication, Marketing or related courses
- With excellent communication and interpersonal skilis
- With 1-2 years experience in sales/Fresh graduates are welcome to apply
- Independent and can work with minimal supervision
- Able to establish rapport with dients Dynamic, go-getter, a good team player

ACCOUNTING ANALYST

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/ College Degree or Professional License (Passed Board/Bar/Professional License Exam) in Finance/ Accountancy/Banking or equivalent.
- Must be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Required skill(s): word, excel, power point.
- At least 2 year(s) of working experience in the
- related field is required for this position. Preferably 1-4 yrs experienced employees
- specializing in Finance General/Cost Accounting or equivalent.

GRAPHIC ARTIST

- Bachelor of Fine Arts(or a degree in Design/ Advertising) or any other related course
- Female/Male
- Well versed in MAC and PC applications
- Knowledgeable in various graphic softwares Extensive knowledge in prepress environment is an
- Preferably has work experience in magazine production
- Can work under time pressure without sacrificing quarity and efficiency
- Willing to work avertime

ASST. MANAGING EDITOR FOR SPECIALTY PUBLICATIONS

- Degree in Journalism or any related field
- At least 3 years experience in the publishing industry
- At least 27 years old
- Vast knowledge and well-exposed in the different editorial
- Excellent in oral and written Communication
- With strong leadership potential
- Must be creative, resourceful, hardworking and efficient

JR. PRE-PRESS TECHNICIAN

- Computer Engineer/ECE/Computer Science graduate
- Background or relevant experience in pre-press and printing operations preferred.
- Familiarity with major graphics software applications, file preflight and color reproduction theory.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

- Electrical Engineer graduate
- Can read schematic diagram
- Minimum of 2 years experience

FOLDING AND GLUING MACHINE OPERATOR

- Male/Female
- Previous experience with operation of automatic folding and gluing machines preferred

DIE CUTTING MACHINE OPERATOR

- Male/Female
- College graduate with éngineering background preferred
- Previous experience with automatic platen die cutting machines will be considered

GUILLOTINE TECHNICIAN

- Experience in polar cutter operation
 - Fast learner
- With 3 years experience/College level

ASTER SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR

- At least high school; preferably with technical school education
- Preferably with experience in operating post press machines
- Hard working and willing to work long hours

FOLDING MACHINE OPERATOR

- At least high school graduate; preferably with technical school education
- Preferably with experience in operating post press machines
- Hardworking/willing to work long hours

ASSISTANT PRESSMAN

- Preferably 2 years experience sheet fed operation
- Fast learner
- Coxege level

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Marketing Assistant

- female, not more than 28 years of age a degree holder from a reputable
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and ability to interact with clients

a team player well organized, patient, with initiative

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Due to the organcy of the above job openings applicants are advised to hand carry their resume a w/ 1x1 ptc & NB) clearance at 18"/F Unit 1903. Joitibee Pleze, Emerald Ave. Ortiges Center, Paelg Tel. No. 567-2247 Fax No. 567-2245 Emailt eleth@loc.com.ph

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eample artivories (personal designa) personally iff: Mossimo Kids Apperel, Inc. 20A Kanison St., Quezon City Tel. Ho. (02) 712-9320 and look for Ms. Janet Kiu



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- Pediatric Cardiology 3 years Residency in General Pediatric accredited by PPS.
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- ii. Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery
 - > 5 years Residency in General Surgery accredited by PCS > must have passed certifying examination given by the PBS (Board
 - cligible/Diplomate) at least qualified to take PBS centifying examination and the submission.
- of satisfactory results of the in-service training examinations III. Anesthesiology
 - > 3 years Residency in General Anesthesia accredited by PBA (Board
- > pre-fellowship (except for graduates of the Philippine Heart Center Anesthesia Residency Program;

RESIDENCY (QUERT so) required) fill-up application of DOH for matching (for Medical Board Passers)

6.

- Radiology Nuclear Medicine
- III. Biological and Clinical Laboratory (Pathology)
 - Deadline for submission of application is on September 15, 2004

* Academic Year 2005 starts on January 1, 2005 General Requirements for Application for Fellowship & Residency:

- Medical Diolonia
- Transcript of Records with the Weighted General Average 3. Remized Board Ruting

Three (3) Letters of Recommendation (coming from different

- Doctors specifically the Training Officer &/or Director of the previous (raining programs) Four (4) pes. 2"x2" picture colored
 - Certificate of Residency in required specialty Specialty Board Certificate in required specialty

Please address your communications to

JOSE A. YULDE, M.D. Assistant Director Office of Education and Research Philippine Heart Center East Avenue, Quezon City

For further inquiries, please conjuct Ms. Carmela M. Ocosion (cp# 0919-2885303) or Ms. Cleopaira Q. Palencia (cp# 0916-3021735) with Tel. Nos. 925-2401 locals 3234, 3235, 3236 & 3237 and Telefax 926-9622, or you can email to oer@phc.gov.ph

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Must have strong communication & interpressional stids & desire to there in a fast-paced recomment. Can reader decisions when necessary. Directly reporting to the Prevident. Single female & a graduate from an pictures school. Must be at test 5'5", between 25'30 years old with a finance personality. Detailenemed, self-parter. Can organize a heavy workload with constantly changing paneties under heavy describes. Free to stevel here and abroad & willing to work long hours.

The page is suppr-less, the almosphere ultra-positive and the rewards unlimited such as for eign travel. If you are ready for this opportunity and not alleld of things that Took like work" then send in your comprehensive resume & pessperi size photo to, empirent@mozoom.com P.O. BOX 455 GREENHILLS 1502



Accounting Associates (for Batangas, Lips,

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- Values driven, diligent worker & team player
- William to be assigned entwhere in Luzon-
- With 1-2 years experience in community
- organizing innovative, people oriented and motivator

An active Christian

- Audit Manager/Associates
- Male/Female, a graduale of Accountancy Values driven, drigent worker & teamplayer
- Willing to be assigned anywhere in Luzon/ With 2-3 years menagerial auditing

experience interested applicants may submit their comprehensive resumé with 2x2 picture at the HRD Dopt., KMBI Head Office, #12

> KMBI Bidg., San Francisco St., Karuhatan, Valenzuela City or email at imbi@skyinet.net or m_prodic@yahoo.com Telephone Numbers 291 1484-85; Fax No. 292-2441

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- To apply, please call 157975, up to 15 minute.

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Workforce Planning Manager

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- Minimum 2 years experience in the Call Center
- Minimum 1 year experience in a workforce planning
- and management role:

 Minimum 2 years experience with Blue Pumpkint
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The state of the s

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- Knowledgeable in the use of video editing related programs such as: Adobe Photoshop, Macromedia Flash, Macromedia Freehand, 3D graphics softwares, audio editing softwares and other related
 - Must be able to submit a portfolio of prior work;
- Strong artistic sense and creativity is a must;
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STORE SUPERVISORS

- Mele/Female; single or married; Between 21-30 years old;
- 5'2" for temale and 5'7" for male;
- Graduate of any business related courses, Preferably with work-related experience in retail/
- food operations but new graduates with teadership potentials are welcome;
- Can work longer hours and on tregular schedule.

MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES

- Female, between 22-28 years old;
- Industrial Engineering or Business Management graduate:
- One or two years experience in brand management and product development.

VISUAL MERCHANDISERS

- Male, between 20-26 years old;
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- Experienced in designing & implementing show window in store props and display:
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> On or before 15 September 2004

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By Josie O. Santamaria

I READ your column in Sunday People at Work last Aug. 22 entitled "I am nervous speaking in English." I am so thankful that Inquires came up with this idea of giving not just job openings to applying for and your suitabiljobseekers but also advice. In the for it. This was the subject view of this, can I request for of "Ask Your Career Counseanswers on frequently asked lor" in the Aug. 22 issue. In questions that you cited in that article, I pointed out the your column? Some of the importance of researching on questions there are familiar to the company you are applyme and I would just like to ing to. This will put you compare my answers from ahead of other job applicants your point of view. Thank who don't bother to know you very much and I hope you about the company. This will can reply to my letter. This also prepare you to answer will help me a lot in preparing for my incoming job interviews. More power!

seems that your letter of apis open for your interview.

you can make a good first lmdence will be shown in your poise, in the manner you talk, and the content of what you

Interview tips



confidently the questions: "Why are you applying to us? What do you know about our Mr. D. company?"

2. Dress appropriately for Congratulational Since you the Interview. Dress to feel have reached the interview confident. Wear casual busistage in your job hunt, it ness attire. For a man, this means wearing a long-sleeved plication and resumé were or short-sleeved shirt with tie. obviously well prepared and. The color of shirt should be acceptable. So now the door solid, not printed. Design of tie should be conservative, not Here are some tips on how loud. Or wear a long-sleeved barong in white or light colors. pression in your job inter- For a lady, this means wearing view. Remember you may a blazer on top of a solid-colhave no second chance, ored blouse with skirt or These tips will help you to be slacks. The skirt must cover self-confident. Your self-confi- the knee. Makeup must be conservative

3 Arrive before the scheduled time for the interview so you can rest and relax in the lobby before you are called for 1. Be prepared. Know the the Interview. While waiting, company you are applying to: use the time to take breathits products or service, com- ing exercises and mentally go petitors and industry. Be pre- over your answers to most frepared with answers to fre- quently asked questions. If

employee comfort room. If ented. They will look for indiyou chance upon an em- cations of creativity and probployee there, you can possibly lem-solving skills. The interinitiate a conversation and viewers will watch out for ask at least two questions: your ability to identify opporemployed with the company? about the company? If asked good attitude and integrity why, say that you are a job applicant. You will be sur- zation prised at the information you will get.

4. Put off your cell phone or put it on silent mode. Never use your cell phone while being interviewed even if your ever you claim is illustrated interviewer does so.

Standards

Bear in mind that during the interview, the interviewer, through the questions, is assessing if you have the marks of a good productive employee. A good and productive employee is one who wants more than a paycheck. He is dependable and self-motivated. He has a high energy level and sense of urgency. He is enthusiastic and self-disciplined. He is usually good at managing his own time, punctual (arrives at work on time or early), and stays until quitting time or even later. He loves to learn, is very trainable and flexible and can respond positively to novel or stressful situations or adept when circumstances at work change.

Most interviewers will also be looking for signs that you are a person who can relate well with people at all levels. They will observe whether you can communicate effectively in English. They will

How long has he or she been tunities, markets and latest trends. And above all, they What does he or she like are analyzing if you have a and can be loyal to the organi-

> So, plan to demonstrate or claim as many of these as you legitimately and honestly can, during the hiring interview Just be sure that whatby the way you apply to companies. For example, if you claim you are very thorough in all you do, be sure your resumé shows it and that you have done research on the company.

Answers to FAQs

Here are some questions frequently asked during job interviews and my suggested answers

1. "Tell me about yourself." Tell the interviewer very briefly where you were burn report on his expectations of ously improve what I am doand raised, family backand the kind of work you have enjoyed the most to date. Then, focus on your about what I am doing." suitability for the job position you are applying for

college, talk about your apprenticeship program and onsample answer.

Know the job position you are reception if you can go to the team player and goal-ori- Quezon City My father is a the day the meeting was quirer.com.ph)



supervisor at

siblings. As eldest, I have

toring if my brothers and sis- skills? ters are doing their hometheir difficult assignments. I sonality. In my previous job __, i always taiked with the person using my the report in terms of quality additional

"In my OJT at the Hotel in my junior year, I If you are applying for your had the opportunity to work I ask them for inputs, listen first job after graduating from in the office of the HR Director. I was given the chance to take the minutes of the the-job training and the time weekly HR meeting. I had management and leadership to listen carefully and then in Ms Santomaria's next column skills you learned from this verify after the meeting experience. The following is a same items taken up that I "I am a Bicolana, born in to ensure accuracy of my toney company. Send requests for also try to find out if you are Buhi, Camarines Sur 22 data. I also finished the career advice to carsys@qinet quently asked questions, possible, ask the person at the skillful with the computer, a years ago. I grew up in printing of the minutes on .net or to peopleatwork@in

and my held. I submitted the minmother is a schoolteacher at utes to the HR Director be-. I am the eldest of five fore leaving the office."

2. What are your strengths? the responsibility of moni- Do you have outstanding

In answering this queswork. I tutor them with tion, do not repeat the key competencies you have cook and clean the house mentioned in your resumé. during weekends. I am pas- Think of a talent or outsionate about work that standing skill that you have suits my interests and per- that are related to the job position you are applying for. For example, you can say, "I find ways to continuing in terms of the quality of ground, hobbies and talents and deadline. I also make my work and the speed of use of the Internet to get delivery of the expected reinformation sults. I also have a high energy level and sense of urgency. I can relate well with my coworkers because to them and consider their needs and concerns

> (More answers to frequently asked questions and interview tips on Sept. 19. Ms Santamaria is president of Career Systems Inc., a was not sure of. I did these leading career development consul-

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Man of many hats runs growing review center

By Ceclle G. Garcia

MANAGING the day-to-day operations of a growing company can be daunting. But, 26 year-old Gerard Alferez, operations manager of MSA Academic Advancement Institute. seems unfazed. Admittedly, his job is not easy. He says, "My main function is to monitor the quality of service delivery in all of MSA's eight branches. But, I perform other duties as weil."

True enough, besides running the company, Alferez handles the hiring of employees, acts as mediator in disputes between staff and management, helps out in conceptualizing new programs and curriculums and in updating existing ones. He also teaches Math in both tutorial and review classes. In addition, he oversees the operations of MSA Educational Tours and Travel, a subsidiary of the company. "In certain instances, I act as troubleshooter, I do the dirty work," volunteers Alferez.

Family-run company

Low key and self-effacing, Alferez is a BS Commerce graduate of De La Salle University and has an MA in education from the Ateneo de Manila. An only child, he joined the family-owned firm after graduating from college in 1998. MSA is primarily a tutorial and review center. Founded 16 years ago by his mother, Merle S. Alferez, a math teacher, it has since ventured into publication of textbooks and has established a pre-school, an academic daycare center and a travel agency specializing in educational tours. Alferez attributes MSA's phenomenal growth to divine plan, hands-on manage- myself and push myself to seven days a week, with virtu-

HR Focus

ment and seamless teamwork.

As operations manager, he has contributed to its growth as well. Alferez points out, "I paved the way for the company to be ISO Certified, I set up our preschool in Makati." Earlier this year, he conceptualized the bookshop. tutorial and academic daycare centers at SM Fairview. "I suggested the design, negotiated the contract with SM and worked as foreman during construction."

Self-motivated

Alferez makes it a point to lead by example. "I make them feel I'm one of them. I want them to be able to relate to me. Once in a while, I organize corporate outings in order to encourage camaraderie among the different branches." MSA's organizational chart is flat, says Alferez. The prevailing culture is one in which there's equality and a minimum of bureaucracy. The environment is informal and hierarchy or rank is downplayed.

Making sure that their teachers are properly motivated is one of Alferez's major concerns. "Financial reward is part of it." But we try to imbue them with a sense of mission. Because we provide supplementary education, we try to make them aware of their role, which is to help students bring out the best in themselves." Their teachers are generally dedicated and committed, he adds.

The young Alferez is self-motivated. He says, "I set goals for

achieve them." When he was starting out, he had a 10-point plan, he recalls. "I've been able to achieve most of them. Not on my own, of course, I consult my parents regularly. We discuss things and share ideas. We usually arrive at a decision by consensus, though my mom has the final say." However, it would not be unusual for Alferez, who does the implementation, to do whatever he believes is right.

Bigger perspective

Guided by his philosophy in life, "you reap what you sow," Alferez tries to work harder than anybody else in the company. He discloses, "I like my job. But I feel my role-running the business—is rather limited. My goal actually is to decentralmanagement through proper delegation. I really would like to focus more on corporate planning." Alferez feels being able to see the company as a whole is an asset. "I have a macroperspective of MSA," he declares. While this is a clear edge, it also helps that he is capable of substituting for anyone, doing anything that needs to be done, from teaching Science or English to ticketing (in the travel agency). "All of us here are multi-tasked," he notes, underscoring once again the informality, the near absence of delineation in rank and role within the firm.

In truth, having multiple tasks-wearing many hatssuits Alferez perfectly. He admits, "It's actually the best part of my job. I don't think it would be as interesting to be confined or limited to one particular area." The downside or the worst part is having to work



ALFEREZ AUGUST DELA CRUZ

ally no day off. "We're even busier on holidays because that's when students have the time for tutorial or review classes." But, regardless of the demands on his time, Alferez finds his job deeply rewarding. "All that matters is seeing students learn, pass their exams and improve their standing in class. At the end of the day, it's enough that we are able to make a difference in their lives."

Inspiration from parents Understandably, Alferez takes pride in the family business. 'MSA is a pioneer," he avers. "We professionalized the industry. In some way, we have uplifted our educational standards. On another level, we try to help students overcome their phobia of Math. In line with this mission, we conduct free seminars for teachers all over the country. We donate books to public schools and to NGOs. We try to uplift the quality of books through our own publishing house." Their ultimate goal is to put up a non-sectarian school for preschool and grade school students.

Alferez sees himself continuing the business and "hopefully, equaling or surpassing my parents' achievements." Apparently family-oriented, he reveals, "My family is my inspiration and my refuge."

Fifteen myths about ...

perience that the employer seeks-and whe tiple offers. Should you ther all those are current You also have to have the comes along? Only if you proper attitude-that you are a team player, not a seasoned professional who knows all the answers and is unwilling to change And, of course, if you are employed in an industry that focuses more on youth, then it may still be harder for you to find a new job.

month of job searching for move in every \$10,000 of current salary.

where this calculation formation The fact is that every job search is different. And external factors such as Hunting Terms. the economy and demand for your particular set of impact your search time. Noted career expert Richard Bolles (of "What Color is your Parachute?") states in a question-andadopt unrealistic guesstimates about how long job."

job offer you get.

offer ever comes, and then permission.)

there will be weeks when you get multiple interviews and perhaps multake the first job offer that are sure that the job and the compensation represent the right career move. If not, a better offer will come along-and as long as you are not about to lose your house or suffer other financial or emotional consequences, you should hold out for the job offer that best fits the Myth 14: It takes one direction you want to

Questions about some of the terminology used in No one seems to know this article? Get more in-(definitions comes from—and no one and links) on key college, has ever substantiated it. career, and job-search terms by going to our Job-Seeker's Glossary of Job-

(Dr. Randall Hansen is currently the webmaster of skills and experiences will Quintessential Careers, as well as publisher of its electronic newsletter, QuintZine, He writes a biweekly career advice column under the name. The Career Doctor. He is also a answer we conducted tenured, associate professor of with him: "I think people marketing in the School of Business Administration at Stetson University in DeLand, their job hunt is going to Florida. He is a published catake. We should expect reer expert-and has been for that our job hunt may the last ten years. He is co-autake months, but if we thor, with Katharine Hansen, persevere, we will find a of Dynamic Cover Letters. And he has been an employer Myth 15: When times and consultant dealing with are tough, take the first hiring and firing decisions for the past fifteen years. He can In all my years of expe- be reached at randall@ rience, the one truth is quintcareers.com. Copythat job hunting is right by Quintessential Castreaky. You'll have weeks reers. The original article can where you interview for be found at www.quint capositions and you are sure reers, com/job-hunting you'll get an offer and no myths.html. Reprinted with

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Sunday PEOPLE at WORK

Fifteen myths about job hunting

By Randall S. Hansen, PhD

HOW MUCH of a job hunting expert are you? Read over these 15 myths and misconceptions about Job hunting and see how many of them you believed in and how many you knew were incorrect. Once you know the truths about job hunting, you should have more job search success-and less stress.

Myth 1: Registering at several Internet job boards will result in multiple job offers.

One of the most prevalent misconceptions in job hunting is that job hunting on the Web is some magic elixir that will result in employers lining up to interview you. While job hunting on the Web should be one component of a job search for most jobseekers, it should not be viewed as having any higher success rates than applying to help-wanted ads in the newspaper or trade magazines Only about five percent of jobseekers obtain jobs through ads.

other job postings represent you are applying to. The only the majority of jobs available.

At the very most-and some say this number is too of the "hidden" or "closed" job market. And the higher the position and salary, the less likely the position will be jobseekers discover these what job you are seekingjobs? Through networking. Networking is by far the most qualified for that position. effective job search tool you can use, Networking is all about building relationships with people who can help you in your job search; it doesn't mean that you need they have a job for you

Myth 3: Jobseekers who frowned upon by employers

has been disappearing for ting a job interview. years. Ever since the great 1980s and 1990s, employers views have recognized that there rarely is any logical progression-or corporate ladderwithin any one company anyotherwise don't be too concerned with moving around And if you are concerned, fo-

chronological resumé. Myth 4: A cover letter is may not be qualified for that job-and don't be too dis-



specific position, but the em-

ployer may have other open-

ings (or know of other open-

ary demands will make you a

lower reasonable salary de-

mands because doing so will

just make you appear desper-

ate for the job-and will

likely result in your not get-

ting the job offer. And even if

you got the offer and ac-

cepted it, you would most

likely never be happy in your

were cheated out of the sal-

ary you deserved. As long as

within acceptable range for

as the industry and location

of the employer, stick to

them. And never be the first

employers will certainly find

And it's often better to inter-

Myth 9: The most qualified

Probably the biggest mis-

conception about interviewing, it is not always the best

qualified person who gets the

job, but the jobseeker with

the best mix of qualifications,

employer raise the issue.

Myth 7 Lowering your sal-

not as important as other jobhunting materials.

Every time you apply for a jub, you should send a cover letter written specifically for Myth 2: Want ads and the position and company exception to this rule is when the employer explicitly states that it does not want a cover high-only about 15 to 20 letter. A cover letter, also percent of all available jobs known as a letter of introducare ever publicly advertised tion or letter of application, in any medium. The vast ma- must be an integral part of jority of job openings are part your job-search atrategy. A resumé is useless to an employer if he or she doesn't know what kind of job you are seeking. A cover letter advertised at all. How can tells the employer exactly and how you are uniquely

> Myth 5: A resumé must show a logical progression of the job you're seeking as well jobs and increased responsibility.

The most important part of a resumé is showing that you to ask everyone you know if have the skills, education (or training), and experience that the employer seeks. change jobs often are Most employers will spend a.m. and 5 p.m. you're out of less than 20 seconds review-The notion of "job-hop- ing your resume, which pers," those jobseekers who means you need to focus on that a majority of job interhad multiple jobs with short the key components of your views are conducted during stays listed on their resumés, resumé that will result in get- traditional business hours,

Myth 6: As long as you're "downsizing" and "right siz- sending out cover letters and ing" of companies during the resumes, you'll get inter-

Maybe in the tightest of job cause there are fewer distracmarkets, or maybe if you are tions. only applying to specific positions for which you are per- jobseekers get the best jobs. more. To get ahead and gain feetly qualified, will this kind new skill sets, jobseekers of- of passive job-search strategy ten need to make multiple produce any job interviews moves. Avoid really short As a jobseeker you must be stints-under a year-but proactive in your job search. You must follow-up every job lead Call employers and re- interviewing skills, and rapquest an interview. If you are port with his or her latercus on your transferable skills underqualified for a position with a functional rather than or changing careers, request cocky if you feel you are the the skills, education, and exan interview anyway. You most qualified person for the

Myth 10: Headhunters and executive recruiters have your best interests at heart. Headhunters and execu-

tive recruiters get paid by the companies that hire them to fill their open positions, so where exactly is their loyalty? With their client companies, of course. Recruiters will not market jobseekers to companies; instead, they try to fit jobseekers into well-defined positions with the companies that employ their services

couraged if you don't feel you

exactly match up with the job. If you get a job inter-

view, it's because the em-

ployer thinks there is a strong

enough match of your skills,

education, and experience to

do the job-and at the inter-

view, you need to prove why

you are the best person to fill

Myth 11: Changing careers is nearly impossible.

As the workplace continues to change and evolve, more and more people will change careers in their lifemore attractive job candi- times-and many change careers multiple Jobseckers should never times. As long as you have a plan and do your best to stick with it, you should be able to switch careers. That said, switching careers is not easy. It takes much effort to switch careers and may involve getting more education (or training), getting experience in the new career field, and job or with your employer focusing on how the skills because you would feel you you currently possess transfer to the new career field.

Myth 12: Jobseekers your salary demands are should not have to sell themselves to employers.

For better or warse, job hunting is all about marketing yourself to employerswhich often means using to bring up salary; let the some key selling skills to close the deal and get the job Myth 8: If you can't sched- offer. You are the product, ule job interviews between 9 and you need to show the employer why you are the best product for the job. in today's job-hunting environ-While it's certainly true ment, the most successful jobseekers are those who understand the value of marketing and apply to themtime during "off-hours" to inselves those principles that companies have used for terview desirable jobseekers. years to successfully sell their view during these times be-

Myth 13: If you're over 50, you will have a hard time finding a job.

The baby boomers (those born between 1946 and 1964) are completely redefining the meaning of age and older works, and thus older workers should theoretically have a lot fewer problems finding new jobs than in the past. The critical viewer/s. So, don't be too issues are whether you have

PIFTEENP. 6

Should I join a start-up?

WORKING.

gota califront that wants to WOUNDED luremeaway Bob from my For-

tune 500 com Rosner pany. The package they offered sounds good, but I'm gun shy-especially given how the market

Thirteen-year-old Michael Adams is not one to panic. When his arm was severed by an irrigation machine, he calmly bent down, picked up his former limb and walked to a nearby car. Unable to steer well, he smashed the car into a tree. No problem. He found a second car and this time made it home. Once there, he comforted his parents until doctors successfully reattached his arm

Working for a start-up these days can be as mutilating an experience as Michael's, with no guarantee you'll come through intact. That said, however, it's often worth the risk. The questions below can help you decide if it's right for you. For more, check out Dan Rippy's "Sizing up a Start Up" (Perseus, 2000).

How much are they offering? Start-ups often compensate for lower salaries with bonuses and stock options. But don't get seduced by what might be. Negotiate for the most cash and the best package you can. Don't be put off by a current low stock price, A low price now makes options cheaper to cash in, increasing your upside potential in the future.

How well positioned is the start-up? The days of start-ups raking in the dough are over so you've got to be sure the company is well positioned to

(dare I say it?) earn a profit. Does it have a distinct competitive advantage in terms of its product, technology

and intellectual property?

Does it have customers who currently pay for its products or services? Can its employees deliver on the business plan—or is it mostly a good idea? How will it vanquish its competitors?

Can they walk their talk? To survive, a start-up needs cash-lots of it. Have they met their targets for raising money? Are they doing what they said they would do (delivering product, signing up customers, etc.), which would encourage investors to contribute more? What do they realistically expect to get in the near future? What if that falls through? How much do they have in the bank? How fast do they spend it? What's the worst-case scenario?

Will you have opportunities to grow? Job descriptions at start-ups tend to be fluid. Explore how much room you'll have to learn and grow. Are you willing to start all over again? You know why: they call them start-ups, don't you? Because the employees have to start-up all over again after the company dies! Hopefully that won't happen, but are you prepared in case it does? Do you have money in the bank to cushion the blow, and the resilience to look for and learn another job?

There are times when it pays to go out on a limb with your career. Just be sure you've investigated the limb fully so you don't get hurt.

(Mr. Rosner is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. E-mail him at bob@workingwounded.com.)



What's inside

HR Focus: Gerard Alferez of MSA

Ask your Career Counselor

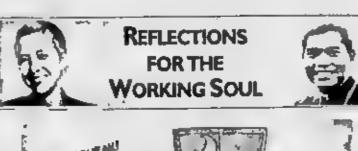
Two-headed monster

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

READING today's Gospel you would probably think, "This guy Jesus, he's a tough boss! Give up everything for him, bah! Asking too much!" You would be right-and wrong at the same time. He's indeed asking too much, but once you see it's for your own good, then it becomes too little

So how did Jesus and His demands get into the workplace? Because, come to think of it, our possessions really often get in the way of work. Take Trina-billed as "glamour girl" in the office-she's in sales so she says she has to look her best all the time. Tring has a wardrobe maybe bigger than Britney Spears' and a mind just as fickle; thus, she takes too much time dressing up for work each day. This has resulted in missed appointments and unnecessary delays in the work flow, causing no minor irritation among her coworkers. So who, or what, is the culprit here? Her clothes, shoes, jewelry, accessories—in short, her possessions? But why? Because our possessions, like it or not, sooner or later get to possess us, tool. Tring may not be aware of it but she is already possessed by the idea that she has to live up to her reputation as "glamour girl"-something that eats up too much of her time, effort and money and erodes her efficiency as well.

Trina's boss is worse-he has two motorbikes, three cell phones, four cars, and god-knows-how-many women. See, "possessions" in today's Gospel stands for things we possess and thoughts that possess us-a two-headed monster that looks very cute at birth but stealthily grows until it strangles us dead. Jesus simply wants to save us from that monster. Is He asking too much? (E-mail the author at teresa_ de_manila@yahoo.com)





Gospel: Luke, 14: 25-38 "In the same way, everyone of you who does not renounce all his passession cannot be my disciple."

Selfless worker

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

THROUGHOUT history, we know of several examples of men and women who leave their professions, their wealth or prestige in order to follow Jesus. In recent years, I have known lawyers, doctors, professors, and executives who left their work in order to become a disciple of Christ in the religious life or priestly service. The difficult challenge of Christ to "renounce one's possessions" to become His disciples can be lived by all of us, including the ordinary worker or top-level executive even in the workplace itself.

A worker or an executive who wishes to follow Jesus need not be "jobless." One can "renounce all his possessions" by letting go of man's true possession-the ego or self, which determines every choice or decision one makes in life and work. The worker who tries to be "selfless" (as opposed to being "selfish") becomes more industrious in his job, more generous with his time even for his work, more self-sacrificing in taking up off-duty assignments, and easier to get along with; in short, he becomes very efficient and productive. The manager or executive, likewise, who habirually thinks and decides with the "mind of Christ" and not solely with his managerial skills, values persons more than things—the welfare of his subordinates rather than the cost of the machineries and capital investment. Such management style will lead the company, not to bankruptcy, but to a better workplace worthy of human beings.

Jesus continues to challenge everyone in the workplace to a "selfless" way of working, which gives everybody in the workplace greater "self-fulfillment," (E-mail the author at

mfvg@skylnet.net)

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The Winners of the 54th Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature



Edgar C. Samar Poetry in Filipino



Naya S. Valdellon Poetry in English

Isagani R. Cruz

Hall of Fame

Wordsmiths
take a bow
in country's
premiere
competition
for prose,
plays and
poetry



Asterio Enrico N. Gutierrez Short Story in English



Wilfredo O. Pascual Jr. Essay in English



Glenn Sevilla Mas One-Act Play in English



Honorio Bartolome De Dios Short Story in Filipmo



Luna Sicat Cleto Essay in Filipino

By the SIM staff Photographs by August dela Cruz

T IS the day of the gathering, this first day of the minth month, a time for revelation, celebration and evolution. On September 1, Philippine literature takes its next step forward when the Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature are handed out at the Peninsula Manila's Rigodon Ballroom. The Palanca Awards night brings into focus the ingredients for all who desire to write: the nights of rewriting, the quest for inspiration and the race to beat the April 30 deadline. It is an opportunity to honor those who have imagined faster, higher and stronger, those who have received the gold, silver and bronze medals of the written craft. After all, laurel wreaths are not just

for athletes. It is a time to honor past celebrants, including those who had previously appeared in the SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE's pages, such as Nicolas Pichay, Victoria Bravo, Lourd Ernest de Veyra, Angelo V. Suarez, Socorro Villanueva, and Eugene Y. Evasco. And it is a time for the recognition of new talent as well, with 31 first-time awardees. Now, SIM parades eight winners as we provide the fanfare for our writers and the passion that keeps them dreaming.

PALANCA BY THE NUMBERS

Year the Palanca Awards began: 1950
Number of categories in 1950: 1 (Short Story in English and Filipino)

Number of categories in 2004; 2]

Total number of awards given since 1950: 1,664

Total prize money given in 2004: Php 592,000

Total number of judges in 2004: 63

Total number of entries in 2004: 906

Category with the most entries: Short Story in English (97)

Category with the least entries: Full-length Play in English (10)

Number of first-time winners in 2004: 31

Number of first prizes necessary for the Hall of Fame: 5

Number of writers now in Hall of Fame: 16

Deadline for next year's Palanca Awards entries: Midnight, April 30, 2005



Edgar C. Samar

a Magical Look Back

dgar "Egzy" Calabia Samar is no stranger to prizes. The 23-year-old san Pedro City native has previously won two Paiancas, among other accolades.

But the young president of the writers' group Linangan ng Imahen, Retorika at Arte or LIRA is thoroughly enjoying his first prize for Filipino Poetry with what he calls his "wounded narratives." As a poet, he has always valued solitude: "The lyric sings of solitude, and so I was easily driven to it. Whenever I write, it is my attempt to recognize this need to be alone that I cannot have enough courage to fully embrace in reality." This boyish and soft-spoken Filipino teacher from the Ateneo recalls that he only began seriously writing poetry in college, inspired by the fact that everyone in the literary organization Heights wrote. And now look where he is.

His winning collection, "Tayong Lumalakad Nang Matulin" is actually the title of his thesis for his Masters in Filipino Literature. "My desire then was to write about woundedness, and so I went back to the wounded narratives in our myths, folk tales and legends. The image of the manananggal wouldn't leave me-the way she would hurt herself (and others) so that she could live. I decided to write about her and the others that shared her predicament: the ones that figured in our folk stories-nuno sa punso, diwata, aswang, tikbalang, mangkukulam, tiyanak, sirena, etc.—that were actually, I believe, distillations of our strongest emotions as a people."

After recently earning his Master's degree, Samar is looking forward to a first book and, of course, more graceful poems about the witchraft of words and the unleashing of imaginations. Ruel S. De Vera

Excerpt from "Tayong Lumalakad Nang

By Edgar C. Samar First Prize, Poetry in Filipino

Kuwentong-Bayan Nagnanaknak ang mga alamat ng ating bayan. Sapo ng alaala sa sugatan niyang palad ang mga hindi napaghilom ng panahon: pagkabaliw ng mga diwata, pagsiksik ng mga manananggal at tikbalang sa pinakasulok ng takot, pananahan ng mga multo sa lahat ng kawalang-malay na tinatalikuran ng lungsod, paglikas ng mga anito sa gunita

ng mga pananalig. Mohlwogo rito, babala ng mangkukulam sa tinik sa ating talampakan samantalang infiligaw tayo ng kantyang paanyaya upang iwan natin ang tángang signaw at lusungin ang hikbling agos sa mga batong nilulumot, Lagi'y rumaragasa ang ating mga paghahangad na iwan ang nakaraan, Lumingon so pinanggalingan, bulong ng strena sa alon sa tuwing tinatangay tayo ng ilog sa dagat ng kawalang-katiyakan Subalit ang natatagpuan natin ay asin lamang sa dalampasigan. Magtatanong ang mga tiyanak na nalulunod sa htwaga ng gabit saan nogmula ang buwan? At mararamdaman natio ang kirot sa pagkaligaw ng sipan sa kanilang lupam. Bowan ang gamot sa mga taon, buntong-hininga ng nuno sa punso habang pinagmamasdan ang papatayong liwanag ng mga alitaptap. At saka tayo rin ay lilisan: sakbibi ang hapdi sa mga di-nagpabinyag na pangalan na nananahan, nananangan

sa mga kirwentong di na pinakikinggan.

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HOLIDAY TWISTER



EXCEPDE from "Casual ties" By Naya Valdellon First Prize, Poetry in English

Casualty

A homeless man jumped into the path of an ancoming Metro Rail Transit 3 train between the Sontolan and Ortigas stations yesterday, killing him instantly... He was around 30 to 35 years old and was wearing a black T-shirt and white underweak

-Philippine Doily Inquirer

Black and white-that's all we know of the man posted on today's paper

who bypassed guards, climbed the streetlevel fence, and testered on tracks

like a tricky lie. Between grit teeth, between two stations, he leapt

to a conclusion. Others lost their train of thought. Nothing here is neutral-

not the photo of the hobo wooing death

calling him first casualty, nor the stain

without his pants, nor the caption

the facts, we must write the true story:

a reason for despair—though loco-

of newsprint on our palms. Having read

motives rumble in our gridlocked minds; a home to track down-where a pair

of slippers lies spurned on the stairs and a bed, that has creaked its last, waits;

and a name—a word common enough that if one of us had spoken it in caress

or curse, it would have rushed like a rumor over billboards and vendors, and echoed

in his ears, and made him turn. That splitsecond spin of his head is our invention.

if he doesn't pause, this poem will contain a crash punctuating his body's confession.

If he is spared, we will take our places on the train—passengers whitzing past

the precarious, all of us almost casualties wanting to be saved beyond this page.

Naya S. Valdellon Storm Trooper

Talmost 23, Naya (who de- than her previous works. The woman/no storm has been named after"), may yet take the local literary scene by storm. Already, she has tucked several important poetry awards under her belt, including the Grand Prize in the First Maningning Miclat Award for Poetry, the first place in the Meritage Press Holiday Poetry Contest, and a finalist slot in the Free Press Literary Awards.

This part-time English Instructor at the Ateneo describes her Palancawinning poems as "more urban"

scribes herself from her po- poems, set in places or vessels of em, "Weatherbeaten, as "a movement, "explore social and romantic encounters that may be meaningful but often amorphous and accidental," adds this "accidental, unplanned, though not unwelcome, baby"

Naya might as well be talking about her poems when she describes the best poetry as something that "should astonish and move the reader on as many levels as it can with its language, tone, intellectual approach, its insight and emotional resonances."

Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz





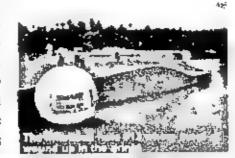
The SMART President's Cup Takes on Davao

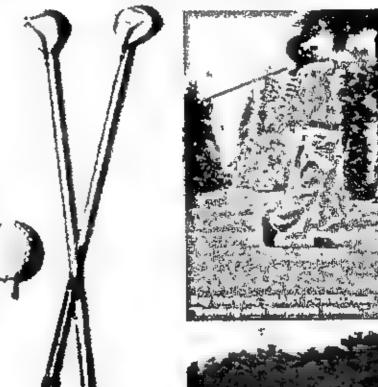
Country Club played host to yet greens active with putters and In its beautifully landscaped morning verdant greens, the first ever SMART President's Cup in edge amidst the plains and Mindanao took place. A bright rolling landscape Joe Marfori sunny morning, in the bustling metropolis of Davao, welcomed more than seventy participants who decided to take on the Chester Uyco for Class C. The challenge of the 18 hole course players took to their respective

bagged the Class A award Funakoshi for Class B and only woman in the group, Melly were pampered to the fullest 74 With a magnificent view of with personalized lockers, a banana plantation on one side individual gifts, and full and the light and easy sumptuous buffets; receiving camaraderie amongst players on nothing less than a 5-star the other, the event was treatment from the SMART anything but simply serious. crew. After a busy registration, Special awards were given to fellows who made this event not exciting only challenging but enjoyable as well. Among the awards

Palos Verdes rotational system kept the given were the In The Drink Award for the most number of another prestigious tournament, swingers all throughout the balls in the water, In The Bunker Award, and the Ladies Keeping his competitive Tee Award for the shortest drive; all given in good sport and clean fun

SMART Behind him were Yoshio President Polly Nazareno together with the Head of SMART PCMSD Boy Martirez were there to partake in the SMART Infinity members, Leyeza, won the Ladies event and to give off trophies to corporate clients, and VIP's Division with the score of net the deserving winners. Three world-class sporting contest!





















Isagani R. Cruz Writing to Change Lives

T 59, Dr. Isagani R. Cruz has either written or written of every form of literature you can throw a reference at in the Philippines. Yet Cruz, one of our top critics, essayists and playwrights, actually holds a degree in Physics from the University of the Philippines, though the "doctor" in his title comes from his Ph.D. in English from the University of Maryland. A Full Professor and pillar of the literary community at De La Salle University, Cruz has received basically every grant, fellowship and award out there, yet he explains that he has always been motivated by "the hope that someone will read or watch my work and be moved by it to change her or his life for the better." Also making Cruz's life better is wife Remedios and his two grown children.

A columnist for the Philippine Star, former Undersecretary of Education and author/editor of over 30 books, Cruz was 33 when he won his first Palanca, a third prize for one-act play in English. "I was just happy I had finally caught up with all the young writers winning Palancas." As the years went, by, though, Cruz also sought to attain those required five first prizes to make the Hall of Fame, now one of Philippine literature's top honors. "Being named to the Palanca Hali of Fame has been my dream since it was established in 1995. At that time, I already had four first prizes and needed only one more. I also cherish all the other awards, of course, but the Palanca is something else."

The breakthrough win came this year, with the play "The Lovely Bienvenido N. Santos" topping the contest for Full-length Play in English. "I wanted to write a biography of Bienvenido N. Santos, my literary father, but I did not want to write it as a scholar but as a creative writer," Cruz explains. After securing the permission from the late great Santos's surviving offspring, Cruz believes he has indeed done it: "I think what I did-creative nonfictional biography in drame form-has not been done before."

There's no rest for the victorious, of course, as Cruz

has begun work on "Bienvenido N. Santos, The Musical," the planned final part of Cruz's trilogy of plays on Santos. There are also books to be written, among them "the contemporary history of De La Salle University for its Centennial." Through it all, Cruz continues his teaching, writing and critiquing, and, with his induction into the Palanca Hall of Fame, gives this advice to young writers who aspire to find success and fulfillment in writing: "Write not to win awards, but the hearts and minds of the people you care most about."

Ruel S. De Vera

Excerpt

from "The Lovely Bienvenido N. Santos" By Isagani R. Cruz Hall of Fame First Prize, Full-length Play in English

Ending of Act 1, Scene 2: CASTOR (to AUDIENCE):

Thar's what Bienvenido Nugui Santos always said after he won a hand at a poker game. "Santos wins." His friends at Wichita State University, where he spent 1973 to 1982 as a Writer-in-Residence and a professor of Creative Writing, would say of him that he was the best poker player they had ever played with. According to Phil Schneider, "Inevitably, at the end of the evening, although he didn't seem to be winning, he managed to walk away with the money." According to Stephen Hathaway, "All of a sudden, he would lay his cards down and say, 'Ah, Santos wins!" Hathaway said of Santos, "He was a lovely

man." I don't play Santos in this play. My name is Castor Kabiling Santos or C. Kabiling Santos, one of the pseudonyms Santos used in his long writing career. There was a real Castor Kabiling Santos, Santos' cousin and classmate in U.R Santos realty couldn't swim, and he realty asked Castor to take that final examination in physical education for him. In 1981 U.P gave Santos an honorary doctorate, ignoring his having cheated in swimming to get his degree. The other characters carry the other pseudonyms he used-Eugenio Lingad, Tomas F. Mendoza, Carlos Parrone, Alejandro P Rito, and Exequiel Young. There was a

real Eugenio Lingad, who worked as a

National University in Manila, Santos wrote the story entitled "Taxi" under the name of Eugenio, the story that first appeared in Philippine Magazine. Tomas was Tomas R Mendoza in print. Mendoza was his father's maternal family name. The F stood for Flores, which was the family name of Luisa, one of his earliest loves. That was a private reference he shared with us poker players...You wonder why a man who made such a name for himself would need a pseudonym, let alone seven But Santos was used to having many names, even in real life. His parents called him Vening or Biening or Bien or Bining, his friends Ben or Mang Ben or Uncle Ben, his readtaxi driver while studying at night at the ers simply Santos.



Asterio Enrico N. Gutierrez A Story of

OMETIMES, all it takes is a chance. Asterio Enrico , 27 "Aste" Gutierrez, 22, is an AB English Literature senior at the Ateneo de Manila and had been taking fiction seriously only in his college years. But Gutierrez dreamt blg, thinking perhaps of producing 11 stories, all with a common theme, a story arc, so to speak. He's decided on the theme of different kinds of blindness, and with fictionist/professor Gad Lim serving as, in Gutierrez's words, "midwife" to the stories, he has more or less finished five of those planned 11 stories. And one of the first ones is literally about blindness, the visual kind, "Most of the stories I've written are about lonely, wretched people trying desperately to escape that sadness and wretchedness, but they always end up in even worse situations. So it's either I really care about and sympathize with them, or it's the story of my life. Or both," he explains.

Joining the Palancas, Gutierrez says, was akin to buying a Lotto ticket-"I just wanted to have a chance." Winning first prize for his short story was still an unexpected experience. Aside from savoring it, Gutierrez is looking forward to writing more stories. "I think up the plots in my head first and then when I sit down, it's all about the language," he says, adding that he agonizes over the choice of every word. Nonetheless, Gutierrez, unconventional streak and all, plans to share lit as well as write it: He plans to teach at a public high school after graduation. His own story, apparently, is just beginning.

Ruel S. De Vera

Excerpt from "Blind" By Asterio Enrico N. Guberrez First Prize, Short Story in English

He was on his last song of his first set when he heard it,

a voice he had not heard in a long time.

It was nine o'clock, and once again he was at Mario's for his weekly Saturday evening gig, the novelty blind planist. From eight to eleven, he slaved away on the restaurant's baby grand Yamaha, coaxing familiar melodies from the keys, in turn coaxing crisp bills out of leather wallets and into the gaping fishbowl on top of the plano lid. Not all of the evening's tips found their way to his own wallet; he took home a measly half while the rest-as Edith, the mattre d', explained in her commercial-voiceover-alto -went to the expenses covering the plano's maintenance,



like the piano tuner who came once a month, at least among other things.

He had long stopped listening to the music; every night it was the same sad set of songs, the maddening monotony like the ticking of a metronome. Every night the same people approached him. a customer requesting something along the lines of "Somewhere in Time," or "Fur Elise," or Edith, giving him the cue for Mario's version of "Happy Birthday" a bastardization of the original tune, the modified lyrics inviting them back when the next birthday came their way. Ramon obliged them every time, deaf to the music, listening to everything else.

Unable to see the waiters shuffling past him, or the customers pausing by his plano before Edith ushered them to the tables, he took to listening intently to the voices floating across the restaurant throughout the long stretch of the evening. The blindness had beightened his hearing, and he played a game with himself of giving as accurate a story of

Honorio Bartolome De Dios Finding Drama in Calamity

Filipino fictionist Honorio Bartolome De Dios effectively uses bilingualism to take us inside the stream of consciousness of its main character, a native of Cotabato, displaced by calamities both natural and manmade. Lapsing from Visayan-accented Tagalog ("dias-syiti midya") to Cebuano ("gid," "ka-adlaw"), De Dios' protagomist remains an outsider trying and ultimately failing to blend into the city's mainstream.

The story is based on the author's long experience working for a disastermanagement NGO, during which he established friendships with refugees driven from their homes by the military conflict with the MILE and developed an ear for their authentic voices.

Born in Marilao, Bulacan and now residing in Meycauayan, the 42-year-old De Dios has been writing since his high school days in a semmary. His overwhelming preference for Pilipino stems in part from his Bulakeño roots, but he also credits his admiration for the works of Lualhati Bautista and the film scripts of Ricky Lee for reinforcing his bias. In 1987, he joined the UP Writers Workshop where he met other Pilipino writers such as Rogelio Sicat and Jun Cruz Reyes. Later, he became a member of the young fictionists' group Katha.

In 1993, De Dios won third prize in the Pilipino short story category of the Palanca. In 1998, the UP Press published "Sa Labas Ng Parlor," a collection of De Dios' gay-themed short fiction. He is currently working on a novel while taking his MA in Anthropology at the University of the Philippines.

Eric S. Carumcho

Excerpt

From "Etong Bayad, Sang Kalayaan

By Honorio Bartolome De Dios First Prize, Short Story in Filipino

Yung huling bakwit namin, binobomba ng militar ang mga kampo ng Em-ay.

N his prize-winning short story Palitan ng putok ang magkabilang kam-"Etong Bayad, Sang Kalayaan Lang," po. Sinusunog ng mga sundalo ang mga bahay--ke Kristiyano ang nakatira o Muslim. Sabi nga ni Papa, wala namang pinipiling relihiyon ang gua, wala naman daw pinipiling tao ang bale at bomba. Tingin ko, sumuko na rin si Papa. Masamang-masama ang loob nya nung magkasakit bago namatay. Ang damot daw ng lupa at langit sa kanya. Kundi man matuyo ang mga pananım dahil sa sobrang ınıt ng araw, lunod naman ang mga tanım sa sobrang ulan. At wala daw tigil ang gira. Ala na raw nagbago sa buhay nya sa baryu. Mula nung isilang siya, hanggang magka-asawa siya at hanggang matuto akong magbungkal ng lupa at mangisda sa Ligwasan, sa kahirapan at gira lang daw umikot ang buhay nya. Kaya oki lang ang hirap ko dito sa Menila. Sanay na ako sa hirap. Pero dito, alang gira. Alang nakabibinging putok ng mga bomba.

Pero nung isang gabi, may barilan sa looban. May mga huldapir na hinahabol yung mga pulis. Mga alas-diyes na siguro yun, naglalaba pa ako nung polo sa banyo sa likuran nung bording. Masarap maglaba dun, medyo mahangın, bısan daghan lamok. Walong



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SALE SHOPPING starts from 10 am to 10 pm at SM City Fairview, SM City Manila, SM City Bicutan and SM City Cebu.

SMICH Y PARTY EV



SM City Fairview has just added a new wing that will surely tease your shopping appetite! The Fairview Annex now houses 37 new fashion and accessories shops, 21 fastfood and restos, 18 home centers plus 39 more of your favorite leisure, entertainment and health stores!

Visit SM City Fairview during the 3-DAY SALE for great discounts and superb shopping experiencel

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Appliances
during the 3-DAY SALE Raffiel

Every P500 single or accumulated purchase from SM Department Store, SM Supermarket or from any participating mall establishments (food and non-food) entitles the customer to one (1) raffle coupon.

PRIZES AT STAKE

В	units	COFFEE MAKER
10	units	GRILLERS
•	units	MULTI-COOKER
3	units	WASHING MACHINE
8	units	MICROWAVE/ GRILLER/
		TOASTER IN 1
9	units	PORTABLE COOKER
9	units	PRESSURE COOKER
5	units	TURBO BROILER
le .	numbber	MACHINE CLEANED

WATER PURIFIER

Enjoy great discounts on an extensive range of fashion and specialty items, aports and leleure facilities, home furnishings, fastfood and restos, aupermarket and morel Check out other promotional offers when you shop at the SM Department Store, Factory Sale Outlet, Ace Hardware, SM Cinemas and morel

Plus!Get a chance to WIN EXCITING PRIZES in the 3-DAY SALE Rafflel 3 units ZONGSHEN (Moped) SCOOTERS

3 units SHARP
REFRIGERATORS V-22T (7cu. ft)
6 units SHARP

WASHING MACHINES ES-45W
3 UNITS AHMO-20 MICROWAVE OVENS

Raffle draw is on September 3 & 4 at 3:00, 6:00 and 8:30pm; September 5 at 3:00, 6:00 and 9:30pm.





Mark your calendar as SM CITY BICUTAN holds its last 3-DAY SALE event of the year. Enjoy great savings from food to fashion at the Super SM Hypermarket and other specialty shops mallwide!

Plus! Get a chance to ride home a Zongshen Scooter Bike when you join the raffle!

WIN one of 5 ZONGSHEN SCOOTERS for single or accumulated purchase worth P500 at SM Department Store, Super SM Hypermarket or at participating mail establishments.

Raffie Draw is on September 5, 2004 at 16:30 pm.





Cebuanos will be treated to a 3-DAY SALE shopping sensation from September 3, 4 and 5, 2004.

Plusi Get a chance to WIN

EXCITING HOME S

APPLIANCES from S

Cond

PRIZES AT STAKE

LG REFRIGERATORS
(7 cu. % 2-Door)
units 29" LG FLATRON TV



Per DEI-HCR Perset No. 4312, Series of 2004

Par DTI-NCR Parent No. 366, Series of 2004

Will and Grace (And a Sprinkling of Genes)

ITH multi-awarded Pilipino writers Rogelio and Ellen Sicat for parents, Luna Sicat-Cleto-dreads the prospect of being asked that much-abused question, "Is writing in the genes?"

"It has begun to feel like a trick question," says this four-time Palanca winner for poetry, the essay and short story for children. "The habit of writing can be contagious, but if you don't nurture it, it will dissipate." Rather than counting on her genes, she chose to be a writer, Luna adds, "because writing clarifies and puts order into chaos. One is simultaneously detached and involved in the process. You hide from things, but you also confront them."

Confronting her Palanca win sounds like another trick question, says this former Journalism major who shifted to Film and who's currently on a local faculty fellowship. "I'm gratified, of course. But while winning has to do with luck and with grace, I also believe that a larger part has to do with the writer's courage to join—this is a contest, after all. If one can lose with grace, that's fine. There's always the next Palanca."

Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz

Excerpt
From "Balanse"
By Luna Sicat Cleto
First Prize, Essay in Filipina

Hanggang sa aking oras ng pahinga, habang humihilik na sa aking tabi ang aking asawa't anak, nananatili akong gising na gising at nagbibisikleta sa isip. Parang, nasa tamang daan nga ako. Nasa tamang daan dahil ito na-

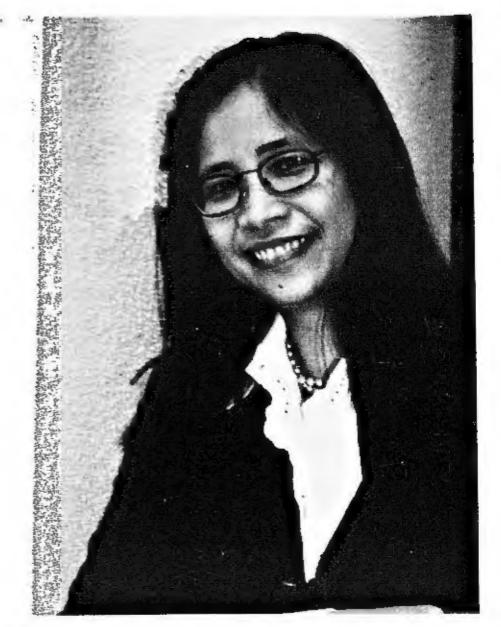
man (yata) (daw) ang kahahantungan ng pagiging tao natin sa mundong ito. Ang makipag-ugnay, ang magkaroon ng kaugnayan, ang sumunod sa tamang daan. Pero, nasa tamang daan nga ba ako? Dahil kung hindi tama ang daan, bakit pa guguhitan ang kalye para italaga ang mga right at left lane? Bakit papunta doon ang mga jeep at hindi sa kabila, bakit madalas tumawid ang mga tao sa mga sangandaan? At sa pagitan ng pagmumuni sa mga lane at sangandaan, namamalayan kong ako at ang bisikleta ay may relasyon. May relasyon ako sa bisikleta. Hindi lamang ito sinasakyan. Hindi lamang ako nakasakay. Posibleng ako ang sinasakyan nito. At ang bawat pagsakay ay muling pagtuklas sa kung papaano nga ba sumakay. Sa lahat ng uri ng sasakyan, may gulong man o wala. Sa lahat ng uri ng destinasyon, sa lunsod man o sa malayong lalawigan. Sa lahat ng lugar na may makikitang bakas ng kalye. Nadidikta ko ang bilis. Ang bagal. Napagpapasyahan ko kung saan ako papunta, Kahit hindi ako nakatitiyak kung may papupunta-

May isang panahong dumaan—na hanging humahaging na lamang—na pangit raw tingnan ang babaeng nagbibisikleta dahil siya'y nakabisaklat. Dahil

ang uniberso ng babae noon ay bahay at kusina, silid tulugan, kumbento. Hindi uubra sa mga mahihinhin ang makina ng bisikleta. Kung nais mong magpalda habang nagbibisikleta, bahala ka. Basta siguraduhin mo lang na hindi ito ubod ng ikli at baka pagpistahan ang singit mo't hitang gumigiling. Binago ng praktika ng pagbibisikleta ang fashion sense ng kababaihan. Hinudyat ng kalayaan ng galaw ang kalayaan rin ng tabas ng damit, at ang bagong sensualidad ng katawang ipinagmamayabang ang liksi't kalusugan. Oo, hindi ito teritoryo ng

mga virginal, lalo na 'yung mga naniniwalang ang puri ng babae ay nakasalalay lamang sa manipis na hymen. Na posibleng mawarat daw sa pagbibisikleta. Nang hindi sinasadya. Hindi ito sasakyan ng mga nerbiyoso. Pagkat lagi itong may hatid na sorpresa mula sa tanawin at aksidente ng mga relasyon ng kapwa sa isa't isa.

Sasakyan ito ng epiphany. Na hindi basta holy ghost or annunciation ang kontexto. Basta. Hayaan mo na lang na dalawin ka nito nang hindi mo hina-



Asterio from post

the people as possible from the details and nuances of their conversations. Particular months brought in particular customers: December welcome customers with falsely-accented tagalog, regaling the table with descriptions of Fisherman's Wharf and the Statue of Liberty. March and April ushered in whole clans, with everyone passing around congratulations and jokes, the most raucous person often the graduate. With February came endless permutations of couples: middle-aged or elderly husbands and

wives spending the evening talking about how the restaurant had or had not changed since their visit exactly a year ago; timid teenagers, awkwardly silent for the most part of their date which the boy had probably saved up months and borrowed money for; then the less frequent, more discreet combinations; old businessmen and college coeds, old businessmen and college boys, then girls and girls or boys and boys—r's sometimes rolled, their lives often mentioned, love always in between the lines.

Wilfredo O. Pascual Jr. Writing of Home

jr. describes himself as "a writer who writes away from home, totally dependent on memory and imagination, restlessness and reflection in confronting my own displacement."

Pascual was only eight years old when he was named "Most Creative Writer of the Year" in his hometown of San Jose City, Nueva Ecija. This early encouragement fueled his passion for the written word: At 18 he was writing scripts for television; at 23 he tried his hand at a romance novel; and in between he wrote poetry. In 2002 he attended the New York University Creative Writing Program and the following year he was a Breadloaf Work Study Scholar for Creative Nonfiction in the US. He counts among his influences scriptwriter Ricky Lee, poet and PDI correspondent Frank Cimatu as well as American authors David Haward Bain and Patricia Hampl.

Twelve years ago he moved to Bangkok, Thailand to work as publications officer of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization, a job which also requires a great deal of writing, though of the technical rather than literary variety.

"All the while, I was trying my hand at fiction, but it was only very recently through creative nonfiction that I finally found my voice as a creative writer," he says. His prize-winning essay "Devotion"—which explores the meaning of Nora Aunor and her fandom to our cultural life—started as a series of postings in an e-group to which he belongs, the International Circle of Online Noranians, ICON.

"It was Nora Aunor and other Noranians who inspired me to write my entry and my need to understand fandom and ground my displacement through hope and devotion in the movies."

Eric S. Caruncho

Excerpt
from "Devotion"
By Wilfredo O. Pascual Jr.
First Prize, Essay in English

The most striking feature of Noraland is the strange resonance between the plotlines of her movies and the oftentimes bizarre turn of events in her real life. We know that in real life, Nora Aunor adopted and raised four Amerasian children and that at the height of Noramania in the early '70s, the feverish fans worshipped a blonde doll owned by Nora Aunor, a second chance for her doll-deprived childhood when she was fated instead to run after trains hugging bottles of water to sell. Christened by the fans as Maria Leonora Theresa, people wrote to the doll and sent her homemade cards. And as if that breathed life to the doll, Maria Leonora Theresa

wrote back and eased the people's worries. They pierced her ear and made her wear earrings. They lavished her with jewelries and expensive clothes. And when the death toll of the deadly typhoons rose, the most photographed doll in Philippine history, went to church and wept. In the editorials she wrote for magazines, the doll inspired the Noranians to mobilize truckloads of fans to help the victims by donating food and clothes, to preach the doll's message of love and charity. Could it be that we have to go backwards in time to fully understand everything? In 1521, the Spanish friar Pedro de Valderrama met the queen of Cebu who was moved to tears when the secular priest showed her an image of the miraculous Holy Child, carved in Flanders and sporting the flamboyance of the baroque; its kingly emblems, the crown, the scepter and the orb signifying dominion. The queen acquiesced and asked for it to be kept in place of her idols. She was baptized and renamed after the Spanish queen mother, the unfortunate Juana La Loca, the progenitor of Bakekang.

Perhaps a body of work becomes complete and its meraphors worthy of study when, like a good story, its elements smoothly follow a clean, narrative arc. Nora Aunor's celluloid journey has a clear departure ("Lollipops and Roses") and return ("'Merika"). In between we find local culture in a foreign land ("Burong Talangka"), anti-imperialism ("Gamu-Gamo") and the sometimes steep price paid by those of us who were left behind ("Bakekang"). That the nurses coincidentally have similar surnames, Corazon dela Cruz in "Gamu-Gamo" and Milagros Cruz in "Merika," only symbolize the nature and requirement of this Golgothan journey-a cross we have to carry on the road to perdition or redemption. With the iconic images of Disneyland, Pearly Shells, US military base, Maria Leonora Theresa, Amerasians and the New York subway, we are grateful to Nora Aunor for culturally enriching our great journeys, our departures and returns, both imagined or real.

CAN'T SPIK TEGALOWS & WE HAB A HOUSE IN ALREDI, YOU KNOW! & AMERIKA AND A CAR!

BEEN THAR

MAG INGGLES, AH!

MGA BIGATIN YAN SIGURO DUN!

POR PAYB YIRS ...

YUNG ORDER

KO ... NADALA

KAYA?

ANG GULD

HINDI GANITO

GUSTO KO DITO!

KO NA

MO NAMANIE

AND KAYA AND PASALUBONG

SOKOLEYT

KAMI



F THERE'S anybody who playwright Glenn Sevilla Mas belleves he is speaking for, it's "the outsider looking in, who can't fit in." Thus, the characters in the works of this 36-year-old native of San Jose de Benavista, Antique, a self-confessed "proud promd" at heart, are people who don't fit in and must wrestle with many demons before finally finding their place in this world, such as Dolores, the much-abused heroine of his winning one-act play, "Her Father's House,"

Mas finished his mass communications degree at the West Visayas State University in Iloilo. "My dream then had been to perform at the Araneta Coliseum," he says, laughing, "and then I realized, this is the big city, it's not going to happen!" He was a scholar of the actor's company of the Cultural Center of the Philippines, where he studied at the feet of director Nonon Padilla. After deciding that he should create the scenes instead of acting in them, leaving the performing to such contemporaries as John Arcilla and Allan Paule, he taught playwrighting at the Philippine High School for the Arts in Mak-

Mas has had his own share of personal turmoil and feeling like he doesn't belong, and has finally learned to be "not so angry at the world, and to be more forgiving of myself and others," he reveals. Still, the ability to strongly empathize with his characters has served him well; he also won third place in the full-length play category, and has



won a total of five Palancas since 1996. Evidently, his haunted characters have a universal appeal; the play has been staged in the United States, where Mas is in the second year of his masteral studies in playwrighting at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., as a Ford Foundation scholar-one outsider who is finally in the thick of the action.

Alya B. Honasan

Excerpt

from "Her Father's House" By Glenn Sevilla Mas First Place, One-Act Play in English

Dolores steps forward

DOLORES: Lent. Twenty-five years ago. Do you remember that time, Isabel? Do you remember what you were doing during that time, isabel?

The third man from the previous scenes suddenly walks in, grabs Dolores by the hair and makes love to her violently again. Isabel prays the "Maghimaya Ka, Maria."

DOLORES: I couldn't cry because you stuffed my mouth with an old rag, I couldn't fight back because you tied my hands and feet to the bed. And the drink that you gave me that night before you ordered me to sleep? I am sure you laced it with the mysterious herbs and spices that you always kept in your cabinet drawer.

In the middle of Dolores' third line, Isabel stops praying and gets up. Dolores doesn't see her doing this and continues to address her, as though she were still in the chair. The chorus members take over Isabel's prayer as the latter's voice joins that of Dolores.

DOLORES

I forced

painfully.

I wouldn't see

And while you were busy

taking form inside me,

myself to look away so

you doing what you

were doing to me so

You knew what he did to me.

You pretended that you

didn't but I knew

you knew!

getting rid of that

which was slowly

ISABEL

You speak like it was all my fault. You knew how your father was, yet you speak like everything was solely my fault!

You saw what he did to me each time I raised my voice, yet you speak like I had a choice!

What else could I have done, Dolores?

How else was I supposed to act?

My sudden trips to the market My sudden errands to the fields My sudden visits to the neighbors I was in church the whole time, Doloresi

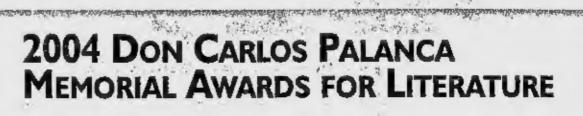
Your sudden trips to the market Your sudden errands to the fields Your sudden visits to the neighbors You knew but didn't do anything!

Dolores walls as the man reenacts the violent third scene earlier in the play.

Annual - - I'm The same statement of the man which a second of the country of the same of HONOPIO...from page 4

lang na yero yung harapan para daw hindl masilipan yung mga babeng borders pag naliligo. E kahit naman anong takip ang gawin nila, sinisilipan pa rin sila nung mga borders at istambay. Maya-maya nagkaputukan na. Napatigil ako sa pagkukusot. Nung hindi ako makasigurong putok nga ng baril, pinatay ko yung gripo. Tumahimik: Sa likod, sa likod, sigaw nung isa. Maya-maya, may bumagsak sa palangganang pinaglalabhan ko, tumilamsik sa mukha ko yung mga bula ng sabon. Napapikit ako sa hapdi. Nanginginig na ako sa takot. Naluluha pa ako sa hapdi nung sabon sa mata ko. Nakatitig lang ako sa harap nung palanggana. Ang tigas nung

bubung yung banyo at may tabing mga braso ko, nanginginig yung mga tuhod ko. Pero napatayo ako sa gulat nung muling magputukan. Papikit-plk-It akong sumilip sa mga butas nung dingding ng banyo. Nakita ko yung lalaki, may tema ng bala sa dibdib, nakahiga sa kalye sa harap nung banyo. Duguan yung polong longsiib. Buti pa yung holdaper, nakakasuot ng longslib. Pero, tingin ko wa-ay na gid ginhawa. Nung lumapit yung dalawang pulis, tig-isang putok pa yung binigay nila dun sa lalaki. Tangna mo, pinahirapan mo pa kami, sabi nung isang pulis na malaki ang tyan. Kala ko ba binawal na ang mga pulis na malaki ang tyan sa Menila? Sayang yung polo, nagkabutas-bu-



Complete List of Winners

SHORT STORY-ENGLISH

First Prize: "Blind" by Asterio Enrico N.

Second Prize: "Foggy Makes Me Sad" by Socorro A. Villanueva Third Prize: "The Index of Forbidden Books"

MAIKLING KUWENTO

by Paul S. De Guzman

Chua

First Prize: "Etong Bayad, Sang Kalayaan Lang" ni Honorio Bartolome De Dios

Second Prize: "Mik-Eng" ni Clarito Garcia de Third Prize: "Dinuguan" ni Johannes L.

MAIKLING KUWENTO-HILIGAYNON

First Prize: "Sinlpad sa Balaan Bukid" ni Winton Lou G. Ynlon

Second Prize: "SI Beryong Balikbayan" ni Genevieve L. Asenjo

Third Prize: "Salaan" nl John Iremil E. Teodoro

MAIKLING KUWENTO-CEBUANO

First Prize: "Ang Katapusang Sonata sa Clarinet ni Nikolet" ni Arnel M. Mardoquio Second Prize: "Talia Migrante" nl Agustin Pa-

Third Prize: "Gutom" of Gumer M. Rafanan

MAIKLING KUWENTO-ILUKO

First Prize: "Apong Gabriel, Pundador" ni" Prescillano N. Bermudez

Second Prize: "Opas" nl Daniel L. Nesperos Third Prize: "Silaw a Makidinnaeg iti Di Maungpot nga Isisingising ti Init" ni Severino V. Patrio

SHORT STORY FOR CHILDREN

First Prize: "The Cat Painter" by Victoria Estrella C. Bravo

Second Prize: "Touch Ball" by Maria Celeste

Third Prize: "The Boy Who Had Three Brains" by C. Horatius Mosquera

MAIKLING KUWENTO PAMBATA

First Prize: No Winner

Second Prize: "Si Mabait at ang mga Dallri ng Liwanag" ni Eugene Y. Evasco

Third Prize: "Turwing Sabado" nl Russell Roland Molina

FUTURISTIC FICTION-ENGLISH

First Prize: "They Don't Bite" by Irene Carolina Aquino Sarmiento

Second Prize: "Niche" by Catherine Rose Galang Torres

Third Prize: "Hollow Girl: A Romance" by Dean Francis Alfar

FUTURISTIC FICTION-FILIPINO

No winners

ESSAY

12

First Prize: "Devotion" by Wilfredo Pascual,

Second Prize: "Confessions of a Space Boy" by Erwin Romulo

Third Prize: "Surviving the Zeroes" by Jose Maria G. Alarilla

SANAYSAY

First Prize: "Balanse" ni Luna Sicat Cleto Second Prize: "Suson-susong Suso" ni Mary Grace P. Mendoza (Jing C. Panganiban) Third Prize: "Diwa ng Manlalakbay" ni Mele-

do Antonio N. Adviento III

KABATAAN ESSAY First Prize: "Window Pains" by Florianne L Jimenez, UP Integrated School

Second Prize: "To Be President.... Why Not?" by Marc Gregory Y. Yu

Third Prize: "In Over-anticipation of the Future" by Marie Kristine F. Reyes

KABATAAN SANAYSAY

First Prize: "Iboto! Ako Para Pangulo" nl Marylaine Louise L. Viernes, De La Salle University

Second Prize: "Kung Ako ay Presidente ng Pilipinas" ni Kassandra Czarina B. Yap

Third Prize: "Kapitan" nl Mark Christopher Delos Angeles Deatras

POETRY

First Prize: "Casual Ties" by Naya S. Valdel-

Second Prize: "Literature and Other Poems" by Joel M. Toledo

Third Prize: "Else It was Purely Girls" by Angelo V. Suarez

TULA

First Prize: "Tayong Lumalakad nang Matulin" ni Edgar C. Samar

Second Prize: "Putl ang Anino ng Minsang Narito" ni Joseph Rosmon M. Tuazon

Third Prize: "Sa Mall ng Mega-buhay-buhay" ni Renato L. Santos

ONE-ACT PLAY

First Prize: "Her Father's House" by Glenn Second Prize: "The Kite of Stars" by Dean

Francis Alfar Third Prize: "Sakura" by Robert Arlo De Guzman

DULANG MAY ISANG YUGTO

First Prize: "Pangulo Naming Mahal" nl Nicolas B. Pichay

Second Prize: "Mga Aswang sa Panahon ng Digmaan" ni Rodolfo C. Vera

Third Prize: "Unang Ulan ng Mayo" ni George de jesus III

FULL-LENGTH PLAY

First Prize: "The Lovely Bienvenido N. Santos" by Isagani R. Cruz

Second Prize: "In Search of the Storybook Dragon" by Anna Felicia C, Sanchez

Third Prize: "Rite of Passage" by Glenn Sevil-

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DULANG GANAP ANG HABA

First Prize: "Psychedella Apocalypsis" ni Nicolas B. Pichay Second Prize: "Gulong" ni Jeanne Lim

Third Prize: "Anatomiya ng Pag-iblg" ni Allan B. Lopez

DULANG PANTELEBISYON

First Prize: "Tugtog Tinapay" ni Lourd Ernest De Veyra & Homer Noucio Second Prize: "Riles" ni Ma. Clarissa N. Es-

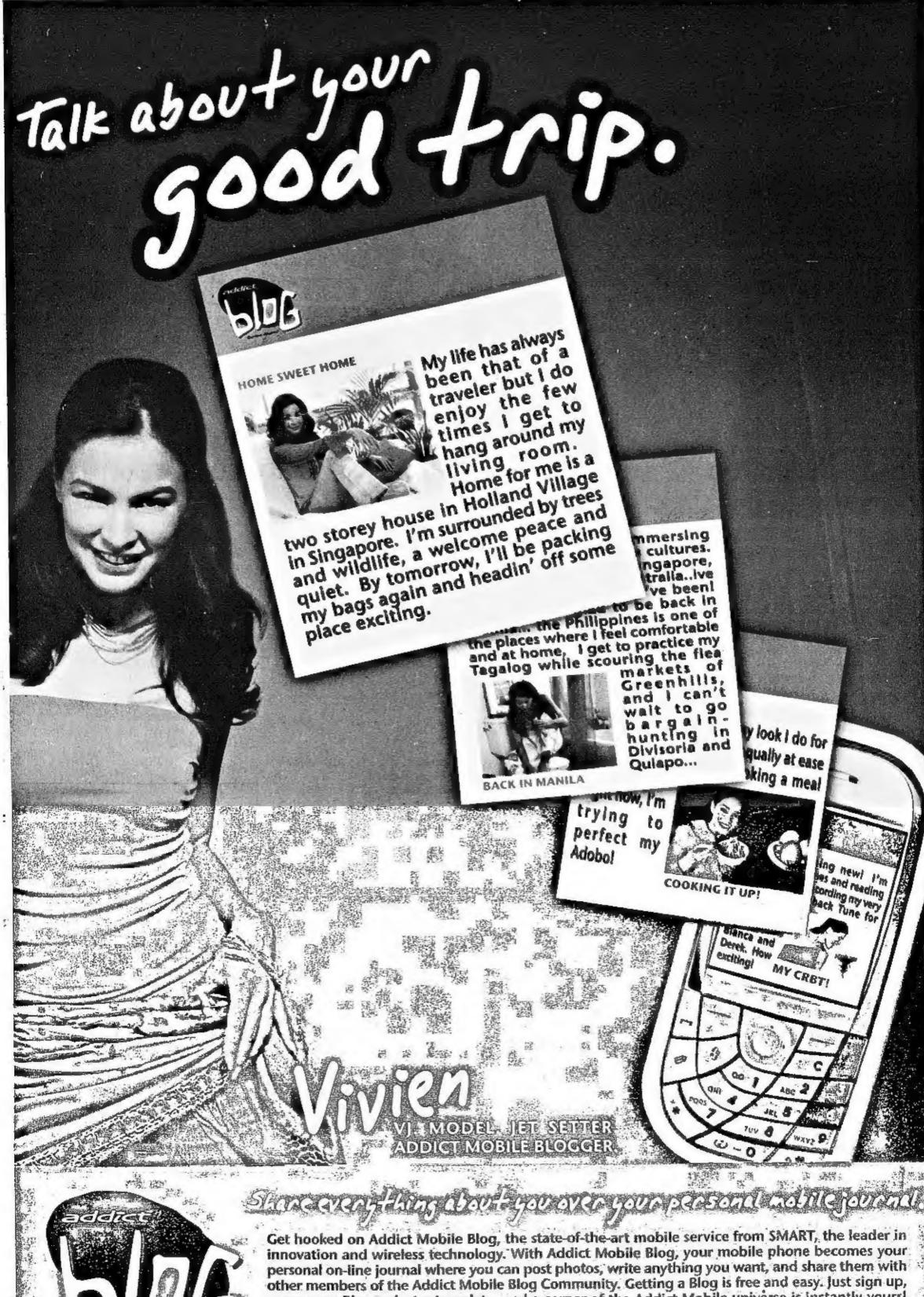
Third Prize: "Adik sa TV" ni Ramon Orbeta

DULANG PAMPELIKULA

First Prize: "Good Friday Archipelago" ni Mark A. Meily

Second Prize: "Snapshots" ni Ma. Abigael M.

Third Prize: "Adoboville" ni Jose Maria Man-





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